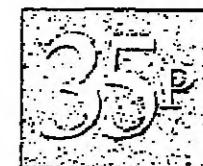


THE TIMES

No. 65,921

FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997



GOODWOOD FESTIVAL OF SPEED

16-PAGE SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

BACK ON TRACKS

k. d. lang
puts an
album
flop
behind her
PAGE 34

MACKINTOSH CLAWS LLOYD WEBBER

The future of the
British musical
PAGE 33

UNBRIDLED PASSION

Why we love horses
PAGE 32
The 100 best
summer wines
for less than £7.50

Promise to heal party divisions after 92 to 70 votes victory in leadership ballot

Clarke bows out as Tories pick Hague

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR



WILLIAM HAGUE became the youngest Tory leader for 200 years yesterday and swiftly promised to heal the divisions that have dogged the party for years and cast it into the wilderness.

He defeated Kenneth Clarke by the unexpectedly large margin of 92 votes to 70 after the Shadow Chancellor's last-minute deal for the final runoff with John Redwood.

Clarke and Mr Redwood were punished by Tory MPs, including some of their own former supporters, for what was condemned as a cynical marriage of convenience to get Mr Clarke over the final hurdle and Mr Redwood a senior post in the Shadow Cabinet.

Mr Clarke immediately announced that he was returning to the backbenches and politely refused Mr Hague's offer of a front-bench job. He will automatically become the leader of the still substantial backbench pro-European grouping whose members were deeply dispirited by his defeat.

Mr Clarke said he had decided before the leadership contest that, having served on the front bench in Opposition and government for 26 years, he would step down if he did not win. In any case he would have found it difficult to serve in a Shadow Cabinet required to observe Mr Hague's line of ruling out a single currency for at least two Parliaments.

There was no immediate word from Mr Redwood, for

Shadow Chancellor and Shadow Foreign Secretary. There will also be big jobs for Stephen Dorrell and Gillian Shephard.

The size of Mr Hague's victory stunned both camps. Mr Clarke increased his vote from the second round by only six, even though there were 38 Redwood votes to be redistributed.

Several MPs apparently felt Mr Clarke had been diminished by the agreement with Mr Redwood, and could not stomach the idea of voting for the man who tried to bring down John Major in 1995.

On the other side, it was equally clear that many of those who voted for Mr Redwood in the earlier rounds could not bring themselves to support Mr Clarke.

From MPs in all camps last night came the verdict that it had been a "deal too far".

Mr Hague, at 36 the youngest leader since the 24-year-old Pitt the Younger in 1783, has had a remarkable rise to power. He entered the Cabinet only two years ago and even at the start of the leadership race was close to standing as Michael Howard's running mate and deputy. The size of his victory has given him considerable authority to carry out his avowed aim of shaking up the party.

The Tories finally decided to fight youth with youth. Tony Blair, at 44, is the youngest Prime Minister of the century.

Baroness Thatcher once called Mr Hague "possibly another young Pitt" when, in 1979, he took the 1977 party by storm with a rousing speech. On Wednesday she threw her weight behind him when it seemed Mr Clarke was gaining the upper hand.

The result was declared in Committee Room 10 at 5.17pm, and Mr Hague was rapturously cheered as he told MPs "we are all in the same team now", and promised to invite figures from all sections of the

party into his leadership team. He then went on to Conservative Central Office, where he formally took over from John Major. He promised to take the party back to unity and power. There would be no grudges against his opponents and there would be a "clean slate".

He said: "I see it as my job not only to lead the party, but to heal its divisions. I owe it to every member of the party to make sure I extend the hand of

friendship and co-operation." Mr Hague added: "I am going to bring the party together. I am going to take it back on the road to unity, to confidence and back to power and the whole Conservative party is now going to work together to achieve that objective."

His swift offer of a job to Mr Clarke was declined graciously. Mr Clarke insisted it was no comment on the leadership contest or Mr Hague. He said: "I've explained to William that

long before the campaign started, immediately after the general election, I had decided that I wouldn't serve in the Shadow Cabinet if I did not become the leader.

"This has absolutely nothing to do with the events of this leadership campaign, which we have all set behind us and which was a perfectly reasonable campaign. I have been on the frontbenches for 30 years. I have either been in most departments or I have

shadowed them. I've retained my enthusiasm for politics and I think it might wear off if I carry on shadowing yet another department or part of government."

Mr Redwood's position as one of the Right's leading standard-bearers has been badly damaged and it was not clear whether he would rebuild his front-bench career.

Hague's pledge, page 2
Leading article, page 2



William Hague and Fion Jenkins, his fiancée, outside Central Office after his victory. At 36, he is the youngest party leader since Pitt the Younger

Blair gives dome the go-ahead

Tony Blair has approved the £750m Millennium Exhibition after visiting the site at Greenwich but ordered that the existing scheme should be revamped. The Millennium Commission's plans will need to be totally redrawn to inject more imagination and creativity into the scheme to celebrate the year 2000. While the dome, designed by Sir Richard Rogers, will stay much of the proposed cost will be redefined. Page 8
Leading article, page 21

Accountancy exams

The Institute of Chartered Accountants' 1997 Intermediate results will be published tomorrow. Copies will be on sale this evening from 10pm at Charing Cross, King's Cross and Victoria stations, Marble Arch and Leicester Square.

Buyers: The Times overseas £1.40; Belgium B Fr 100; Canada \$3.50; Canaries Pts 325; Cyprus £1.20; Denmark Kr 100; France F 16.00; Germany DM 4.50; Gibraltar esp; Greece Dr 500; Holland Gfl 10; Ireland £1.20; Italy L 80; Malta Mkt 27.50; Mexico Mts 350; Spain Pt 325; Sweden Skr 14.50; Switzerland S Fr 5.00; Turkey Dtl 2.200; USA \$3.50.

The Times on the Internet
<http://www.the-times.co.uk>

McDonald's win Dave and Goliath libel fight

By FRANCES GIBB AND JOANNA BALE

THE fast-food chain McDonald's won a pyrrhic victory yesterday when it was awarded £60,000 in damages at the end of its £10 million record-breaking libel action against two "green" campaigners, Dave Morris and Helen Steel.

After a 314-day trial spread over 2½ years, the longest in English legal history, Mr Justice Bell ruled that the company had been libelled by most of the allegations in a leaflet published by the protesters in the late 1980s.

But in a ruling that also prompted the protesters to claim victory, the judge upheld three allegations saying that the leaflet was true when it accused McDonald's of paying low wages to its workers.

The action was brought over a pamphlet which accused the corporation of being responsible for starvation in the Third World, of destroying vast areas of Central American rainforest, of serving unhealthy food, of cruelty in the rearing and slaughter of its animals, of treating its workers badly

and of exploiting children in its advertising and marketing.

Mr Justice Bell awarded a total of £30,000 against Mr Morris and Ms Steel for each of the two companies in the action. McDonald's Corporation and McDonald's Restaurants Ltd. Ms Steel was jointly responsible for £27,500 of the total because her involvement was over a shorter time.

Yesterday McDonald's said it did not intend to pursue the couple for damages: they have a joint income of less than £7,500 a year. Mr Morris promised to take the fight to the European Court of Human Rights to challenge Britain's "oppressive" libel laws.

Protesters defiant, page 6

Jonathan Aitken and wife to part

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

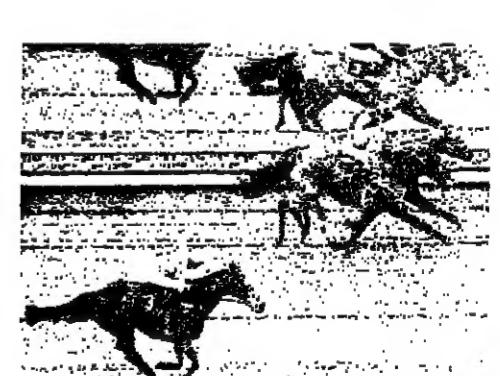
JONATHANAITKEN and his wife, Lolita, last night announced their separation "for personal reasons" after 18 years of marriage.

The former Cabinet minister and his Serbian-born wife, who met in London in 1973, had spent most of the last three weeks together at the High Court where he is fighting a libel action against *The Guardian* and Granada TV over allegations about his Saudi Arabian business connections. The case was adjourned yesterday, apparently because new evidence had come to light.

The couple, who have three children, twins Victoria and Alexandra, 17, and William, 14, have been under considerable strain during the hearing.

The couple were introduced by the mother of Mr Aitken's Saudi Arabian friend and business partner, Said Ayas.

Mr Aitken had intended to call his wife, their daughters and his mother-in-law to give evidence over allegations that he was financially dependant on the Saudis.



WINNER BY A HEAD



WINNER BY A NECK

Tests make it a woman's life in the Army

By MICHAEL EVANS
AND VALERIE ELLIOTT

THE Army has introduced "gender fair" physical fitness tests to ensure women have the same chance as men to compete for jobs.

Females must do the same press-ups, pull-ups and running, but the work-out is limited to take account of their weaker upper bodies and different breathing rhythms.

The new fitness assessment, devised to keep pace with equal opportunity requirements, is part of a radically changed programme aimed at fitting

the individual to the job he or she will fulfil in the Army.

Yesterday the Equal Opportunities Commission, in its annual report, underlined the importance of eliminating any aspect of the fitness programme that might discriminate against women. The report said: "We have advised the Army on its review of fitness standards to make sure males and females get equal treatment."

The Army has met this requirement by developing a complex series of "predictive" tests. Although women are not required to do as many press-ups, and will run shorter distances,

they are still eligible for the same job vacancies as men, unless the tasks are too physically demanding.

There are three classifications of job: tough, represented by the number one; not very tough (two), and not tough (three).

A young man applying for the Parachute Regiment would be required to have three ones, each representing the highest pass rate for individual physical tests. A clerical job would be classified by three threes.

Although women are not allowed to join combat infantry units, they could still apply for a job requiring three

ones. An Army spokesman said it might be necessary to have three ones for a job involving maintaining tank tracks because of the heavy lifting involved. In such cases the tests would be the same for men and women.

Women wanting to work in the vehicle maintenance field would need to show they could lift a Land Rover bonnet, or, with team help, lift equipment on to a vehicle tailboard or carry a full Jerrycan of water.

Fitness requirements for all recruits have already changed because it is now accepted that young people are not as fit as previous generations.

ROYAL AIRCRAFT	17-20 June
WIMBLEDON TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP	25 June - 6 July
POLY VENET CLICQUET GOLD CUP, CINCHON PARK	26 June - 20 July
HENLEY ROYAL REGATTA	2-6 July
SAD CORNWALL TEST MATCH v AUSTRALIA, OLD TRAFFORD	5-7 July
HAMPTON COURT POLICE INTERNATIONAL FLOWER SHOW	9-13 July
HENLEY FESTIVAL OF MUSIC AND THE ARTS	9-12 July
BRITISH GRAND PRIX, SILVERSTONE	13 July
GLENBROOK GOODWOOD	29 July - 2 August
CHESTER WEEK	2-9 August

Veuve Clicquot

CHAMPAGNE OF THE SEASON



Umbrellas were the most important fashion accessory for Ladies' Day at Ascot and for those patiently waiting for a break in the clouds at Lord's. The wettest June since 1991 also threatens next week's tennis at Wimbledon

Rain fails to dampen Ladies' Day fashion stakes

By GRACE BRADBERRY AND LIN JENKINS

WIND and rain failed to ruffle the feathers of racegoers at Ascot Ladies' Day yesterday as flamboyant hats proved more enduring under a sea of umbrellas than the summer sporting programme.

Play was washed out in the second Test against Australia at Lord's and the first week of Wimbledon looks likely to be interrupted by showers. The preliminary tennis events at Nottingham and Eastbourne were disrupted by the rain which is expected to continue over much of the country this afternoon.

The Queen refused to surrender to the downpour which hit Ascot after a night where a quarter of an inch of rain fell on the course and stoically rode in an open landau in the traditional procession down the course accompanied by five other members of the Royal Family and

friends. All waved from beneath their large black umbrellas, denying those in the record crowd of 77,543, including some who had taken bets with Irish bookmaker Paddy Power on the colour of the hat she would wear for the occasion, a glimpse of the outfit until they stepped out to walk to the Royal Enclosure.

The Queen wore a white straw with tangerine to match her white coat over a tangerine and white print. Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother wore a characteristic ensemble of cornflower blue.

Rainfall for the month is already above the June average, bringing some respite for gardeners and water companies after the low falls of the spring, but not welcomed by farmers who have already begun haymaking.

At Lord's the spectators spent a



Susie Ireland wears a headdress created by the Navaho tribe

frustrating day waiting for the clouds to clear as the wicket remained covered. At 4.45 pm play was abandoned without a ball being bowled, leaving spectators entitled to £650,000 in refunds. It

was only the fourth time that the first day's play had been lost in the history of Test cricket at Lord's — twice against Pakistan in 1954 and 1978 and the last time against Australia 19 years ago.

The London Weather Centre said June had so far been the wettest since 1991. "It is not really soaking, more a case of bad timing for the sporting events," said a spokesman. "Ascot has a high profile and had a lot of rain during racing, which does not go down well with people. It stopped when they went home."

"As for the Test we could have told them this morning there would be no play rather than the umpires popping out every hour to gaze at the sky. Things should be a bit better today and they should get some play in late morning and early afternoon before it rains again."

Unsettled conditions are likely to continue over the weekend with dry spells between the showers. "Monday will be wet. Tuesday looks OK on our charts, but Wednesday is unsettled again. It does not seem to be going to clear up. We have been

a bit spoilt in recent years, but rain in June is not really unexpected," he said.

Ascot attracted both the fashionable and the bizarre. Kay Hirst stood out with a three foot tall Eiffel Tower made from a child's puzzle in place of the designer hat she could not afford to buy. Miss Hirst, 20, an English student at the University of Nottingham, Trent, said: "It's actually a puzzle my sister gave me. I couldn't afford a hat so I thought I would wear this. I wanted something different, I didn't want to look like everyone else. It's just a laugh really."

Feathered millinery was the look for socialites attending the Royal Enclosure.

Viscountess Coke, a hat designer under her maiden name Polly Whately, wore a purple small topper with a single quill. "It's definitely the season's shape," she said. "Quills with the feathers

stripped off are also big." As the day wore on her choice proved not only chic but practical; the smaller the brim and the fewer the feathers the less damage the weather could do.

Even David Shilling, the flamboyant milliner, had streamlined his design for the day. His showcase hat for Ladies' Day had a high crown, narrow brim and a tall ostrich feather shooting upwards.

But this year it was worn not by his mother, Gertrude Shilling, who is ill, but by Florence Claridge, a florist from Barnet. "It's so much easier to manoeuvre with a narrow brim," she enthused, "and not so likely to get wet."

The most extraordinary hat of the day was an Indian squat number created by the Navaho tribe, and worn by Susie Ireland. But even that flight of fantasy adhered to the day's theme — feathers.

World Cup wile that kept Jules Rimet still gleaming

By JOHN SHAW

ONE of football's best-kept secrets was revealed yesterday — how a copy of the World Cup was used after the original was stolen in the Sixties.

A gilded bronze replica of the gold original was passed off as the real thing for two years. The duplicate is now being sold at Sotheby's in London on July 11. It is expected to fetch £30,000.

The 13in Jules Rimet trophy, first won by Uruguay in 1930, was stolen while on show at Central Hall, Westminster, in March 1966. A few days later the thieves sent the top of the cup with a ransom note for £15,000.

Meanwhile, Denis Follows, then secretary of the Football Association, met George Bird, managing director of Alexander Clarke, a firm of city silversmiths, and commissioned an exact replica. Secrecy was paramount. Mr Bird made working drawings from eight photographs and was instructed to go ahead.

Selected staff worked at night and weekends. But work had not proceeded far when the firm was instructed to stop. The trophy had been found by a mongrel called Pickles in bushes outside his owner's home in south London.

Four months later Bobby Moore held the cup aloft after

England's win over Germany at Wembley on July 30. There was worldwide demand to see the trophy, kept in Clarke's strong-room in Fenchurch Street. It was brought out up to ten times a week, sometimes at the request of Buckingham Palace, Downing Street or a government department anxious to improve Britain's image abroad.

Security was becoming a concern and Mr Bird suggested to the FA that a replica be made in base metal for display while the gold original remained in store. The FA agreed but specified that the copy should be "indistinguishable from the original except by technical examination". On no account was the

news to be leaked. The duplicate was completed in 1968 and passed off as an important function as the genuine article, an illusion fostered by heavy security.

Brazil won the competition for the third time in 1970 and was entitled to keep the gold version permanently. But it was then stolen for a second time, never to be seen again. Police believe it was melted down for bullion. A new trophy was introduced in 1974.

Meanwhile the replica, the only exact copy, was returned to the jewellers without its existence becoming public. The firm passed it to Mr Bird, whose family is now selling it at auction.



Bobby Moore with the real trophy, and the replica

Wife 'heard blackmail threat on telephone'

By A STAFF REPORTER

A MILLIONAIRE's wife wept in court yesterday after she described how she discovered that her husband was allegedly being blackmailed by his former mistress. Mrs X said she had picked up the telephone extension in her house and heard her husband speaking to the woman.

"She sounded rather annoyed. She said: 'Where is my 900 quid?' When he replied that he had not got it, she said: 'I do not care, I need it. Get it.' When he told her there is no more money she said: 'Would you like me to come and bear down your door? My husband's voice sounded exhausted and distressed."

Mrs X said that when she questioned her husband about the call he told her it had been a mad woman he had done business with. "It sort of sounded about right," she said. But she had a suspicion over bank statements that had not been delivered for some time. When she later discovered a £3,500 overdraft "it was a shock" and she insisted on an explanation. Her husband broke down and told her he was being blackmailed.

Beverley Jackson, 39, from St John's Wood, north London, denies six charges of blackmail totalling £42,900. The trial continues.

Fatal urge mistaken for adolescence

By RICHARD DUCE

A PARANOID schizophrenic murdered his father after 20 doctors dismissed his violent delusions as troubled adolescence, an inquiry report revealed yesterday.

Peter Winship marked his twentieth birthday last July by stabbing his father 100 times, breaking the blades of three knives in the process and battering him about the head 20 times with a hammer. He has since been detained indefinitely.

However, all the medical experts involved over four years in the treatment of Winship were exonerated by the independent report into the death of his father Anthony, 52. Hugh Chapman, the solicitor who chaired the inquiry for the Nottingham Health Authority, said that

the case served as an example of the difficulties involved in diagnosing paranoid schizophrenia. The problem was well highlighted by the fictional character Joe Wicks in the television soap *EastEnders*.

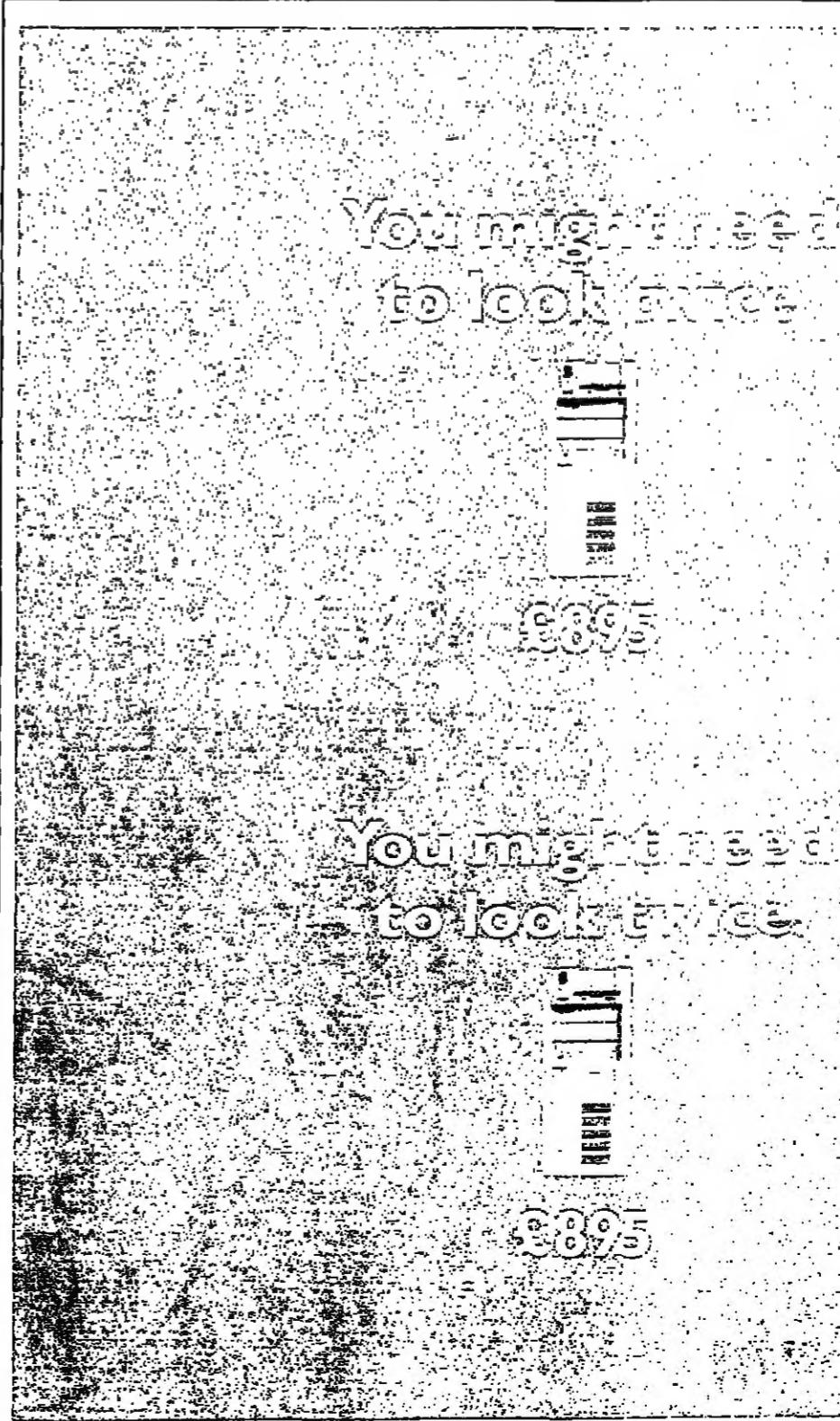
"Joe accurately portrays the difficulties you have in differentiating between a schizophrenic and someone suffering badly as a young man going through a troublesome adolescence," he said. "Mr Winship's killing of his father could not reasonably have been predicted or prevented."

Last night the Winship family refused to comment on the inquiry findings, but they were critical of the health authority after the original court sentence.

Winship came from a broken home and

often suffered violence at the hands of his father, but went on to well at school where he gained seven GCSEs. He first complained of his problems at 15, when he told his GP that he was depressed and had started taking large amounts of paracetamol and alcohol. Over the next four years, he was in and out of hospital and referred to more than 20 doctors and psychiatrists. He threatened suicide and 20 months before the fatal stabbing claimed he was hearing voices telling him to kill his father.

Dr David Kingdon, medical director for Nottingham Health Care Trust, said: "We did not consider these to be threats against the relative in this case. It was felt to be negative thoughts in the patient's mind — a common clinical situation."



The new Compaq ProSignia 200 server range starts at just £495 plus VAT. It's our smallest price ever. For this you'll get a server with all the performance and reliability features you would expect from Compaq, the No.1 in servers. For example, Version Control - the unique on-line healthcheck - ensures you can keep your server at its peak. And all ProSignia 200s have Intel Pentium processors. For your information pack please phone: 0990 50 00 35

Prices are £11V Typical Buying Prices and exclusive of VAT. The Intel Inside logo and Pentium are registered trademarks of Intel Corporation.

Straw backs down on pledge to end private prisons

BY RICHARD FORD, HOME CORRESPONDENT

THE Government unveiled plans for two new privately run jails yesterday, abandoning its pre-election pledge to end the privatisation of the Prison Service.

The Prison Service disclosed that it again faces a mounting population crisis, with the number of offenders being sent to jail running ahead of published estimates. By the end of next year the prison population is set to reach 65,000 — 2,000 ahead of published figures. Yesterday there were 61,250 prisoners in the 135 jails in England and Wales, which have an absolute capacity of 62,000.

Richard Tilt, Director General of the Prison Service, said that to operate the system properly there needed to be a gap of 1,000 spaces. "We are absolutely at the margins and finding it difficult to cope on a day-to-day basis." Although the service has avoided using police cells, 10,500 prisoners are doubled up in cells for one offender.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, announced the reversal of Labour's policy when he said private firms such as Group 4, Securicor, and Premier Prisons were to be asked to compete to design, construct, and manage the 800-cell Agecroft jail at Salford, near Manchester, and a 400-place young offender institu-

tion at Pucklechurch, near Bristol.

He told MPs in a written Commons answer that the contract for the privately run Blakenhurst prison near Redditch, Hereford and Worcester, would be renewed for a further three years. Mr Straw said: "On the letting of new contracts and the renewal of existing contracts, our immediate approach is necessarily determined by current expenditure plans, to which we are committed, and by operational requirements."

He said the Government had inherited a prison population rising sharply and there was an urgent operational requirement to overcome projected shortfall in accommodation and to avoid dangerous

Mr Straw has ordered the Prison Service to conduct a study to see whether private cash could be used to design, build and maintain prisons while the public sector runs them. Mr Tilt said Mr Straw had reaffirmed his commitment that imprisonment should be in the public sector.

Yesterday, the six Eleonora's Falcons

levels of overcrowding and the use of police cells. The decision to renew the Blakenhurst contract and to allow two more private prisons to be built was given to the Prison Governors' Association and the Prison Officers' Association at a meeting.

Both groups believed they had a binding pledge from Labour that no new private prisons would be built and that when existing contracts ended private jails would be returned to the public sector.

In April Mr Straw said in *Datefile*, the magazine of the 27,000-strong Prison Officers' Association: "I should like to take this opportunity to stress my fundamental objection to prisons run by the private sector. This is surely one area where there is no free market. We cannot break contracts which already exist. But we shall certainly make no new ones and, within the existing budget, shall take back into the public service privatised prisons as soon as contractually possible."

Paul Noble, 33, of Sandy, Bedfordshire, who stole the eggs in 1994 and 1995, and smuggled them to Britain, was jailed for eight months after an investigation by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and Bedfordshire police. He was found guilty of smuggling and the illegal sale of falcons.

Yesterday, the six Eleonora's Falcons



Four of the falcons before their return to Majorca yesterday. They will be assessed before any return to the wild

Rare falcons return to island home

RARE falcons hatched from eggs that were stolen from nests in Majorca by international smugglers spent their last day in Britain yesterday before being returned to the Mediterranean island.

Paul Noble, 33, of Sandy, Bedfordshire, who stole the eggs in 1994 and 1995, and smuggled them to Britain, was jailed for eight months after an investigation by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and Bedfordshire police. He was found guilty of smuggling and the illegal sale of falcons.

Yesterday, the six Eleonora's Falcons

were flown back to Majorca, where wildlife officers will decide if they are fit to be returned to the wild. Inspector Philip Cannings, who led the investigation into the birds' recovery, said: "This has been a long investigation and to actually see the birds going back to their rightful homes is in many ways the most satisfying part of the case. There is an illegal trade in these birds and they can fetch more than £1,000 each."

The falcons, of which there are an estimated 4,500 breeding pairs in the wild, are named after Eleonora of

Arborea (c.1350-1404), a ruler and national heroine of Sardinia who gave special protection to hawks and falcons. □ Dog walkers are being advised to wear Wellington boots when walking their animals and to carry antihistamine tablets for their pets after four dogs were bitten by adders in the dunes at Braunton Burrows, Devon beauty spot, since the snakes came out of hibernation in March. The tablets are not a cure for the venom but can slow the effects of the poison giving time for treatment to be obtained.

Aitken's lawyers check new claims over Ritz stay

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

JONATHAN AITKEN's libel hearing was adjourned yesterday so that lawyers for the former Cabinet Minister could investigate new evidence against him. Mr Aitken is to face an application to recall him to the witness box for further cross-examination.

The court was told that lawyers for the defendants, *The Guardian* and Granada TV, had received a witness statement from a British Airways employee, Wendy Harris, relating to travel arrangements for Mr Aitken's family weekend at the Ritz hotel in Paris in September 1993.

Mr Aitken is suing over claims that his hotel bill was paid by wealthy Arabs while he was a minister. He was absent from the court on the twelfth day of the action. Mr Justice Popplewell, who is hearing the case without a jury, said it was important that his counsel, Charles Gray, QC, should have the opportunity to investigate "potentially very important" documents produced by the defence. Upon the completion of inquiries, said the judge, the former Minister of State for Defence Procurement and Chief Secretary to the Treasury should return to court.

Mr Aitken also denies lying to John Major and Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler, about the purpose of the weekend which the defence claims was for a clandestine business meeting with Saudi Arabian associates. He told the court that it was a purely family weekend in Paris en route for Geneva to settle his teenage daughter, Victoria, into a new school.

Cocaine find
A British mother and her son, a minor, were arrested at Orly airport in Paris after 19 kilograms of cocaine was found in their luggage. The unnamed Britons were held on Monday on arrival from French Guiana. The drug was taped into their suitcase.

Gallipoli VC sold
The first Victoria Cross awarded posthumously by the Royal Navy has fetched £5,900 at auction. The medal was awarded to Petty Officer Billy Williams of Chelstow, who died aged 35 at Gallipoli in 1915. It was bought on behalf of a private collector.

City swingers

Work has begun on the world's first national museum devoted to popular music. Members of the groups Babybird, Heaven 17 and ABC, all from Sheffield, helped to launch the £15 million National Centre for Popular Music in the city.

Wedding sunk

An underwater wedding has been called off "with deep regret" after the bride and groom had cold feet about each other. Robert Scotland, 20, and Murag Shaw, 30, were to marry on Saturday at the Deep-Sea World aquarium in North Queensferry, Fife.

Robot wanders desert on dry run for the Moon

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

A ROBOT has begun a 40-day exploration of the Atacama Desert in Chile in a dry run for missions to Mars or the Moon.

Controlled by operators 5,000 miles away in Pittsburgh, Nomad is expected to wander more than 125 miles across the surface of one of the world's most inhospitable regions before the operation finishes at the end of next month.

Powered by solar energy and fitted with two cameras with panoramic vision, Nomad was built by Carnegie Mellon University under a contract from Nasa. William "Red" Whitaker, its designer, said: "Nomad will wander the desert for 40 days, if not quite 40 nights."

The four-wheeled robot is equipped with sensors and metal detectors to search for rocks or meteorites. It has a mind of its own: if the controllers order it to drive directly at an obstacle, it will override the instruction. It can also select the best route to a goal set by the controllers. If No-

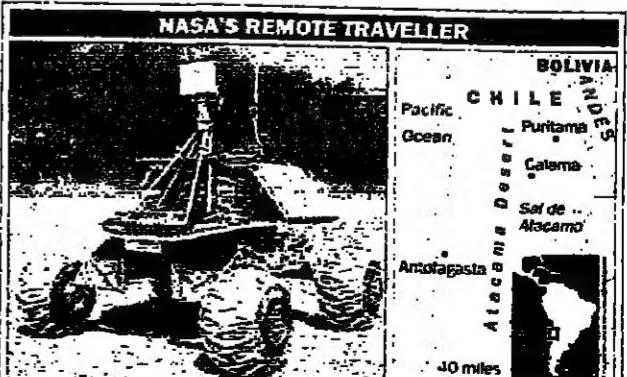
mad meets rugged terrain, it has the ability to expand, increasing its wheelbase to reduce the risk of toppling over.

The cameras will send back 360-degree pictures of the landscape around the robot, which is barren in the extreme. There is no vegetation, it rains once every century, and the temperature ranges between freezing and 25°C every day.

The test will include simulating missions that robots might perform on Mars or the Moon. Dave Lavery, a Nasa robot expert, said: "However,

the robot's first practical task is on Earth. Nomad's successor is to explore the Antarctic for meteorites similar to ones already found by human explorers and believed to contain evidence of life on Mars.

Nomad is more sophisticated than Nasa's Sojourner, which is due to land on Mars on July 4. That robot is expected to move only a few metres a day and send back a single black-and-white photo a day. Nomad can cover up to three miles a day, at speeds of about 1ft per second, while sending continuous real-time video footage.



Call into your local branch or phone 0800 100 801
(QUOTING REFERENCE: A556G/10)

ABBEY NATIONAL®

Lines are open Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm. To assist us in improving our service we may record or monitor telephone calls. Rates effective from 19.6.97. The minimum investment is £2,000. A bonus of 1% gross p.a. will be payable on accounts until 31.7.97. From 1.8.97 the interest rate will revert to our standard Investor 90 rate. Rates may vary. Until 31.12.97 if the average base rate of all UK Clearing Banks is increased, the annual gross interest rate payable will be increased by no less than that increase. 6.8% gross p.a. is payable on balances of £200,000 or over. See leaflet for full conditions. You may be able to register with us to receive interest gross; otherwise it will be paid net of income tax at the prescribed rate. The Share Dealing Service has been arranged by Abbey National plc with ShareLink, a member of The London Stock Exchange and regulated by The Securities and Futures Authority. ABBEY NATIONAL PLC IS REGULATED BY THE PERSONAL INVESTMENT AUTHORITY FOR ITS SHARE DEALING SERVICE. Abbey National and the Umbrella Couple symbol are trademarks of Abbey National plc, Abbey House, Baker Street, London, NW1 6XL, United Kingdom.

JY/101/97

NEWS IN BRIEF

Boxing promoter held in VAT raid

Frank Warren, the boxing promoter, was being questioned yesterday by Customs officers investigating an alleged VAT fraud. During a number of raids, Customs officers went to the offices of Sports Network, in Hertford, where Mr Warren works as a consultant.

A Customs spokesman said he could not comment on details of the investigation or the extent of the alleged fraud. Three premises in Essex and Hertfordshire were searched. Under the authority of search warrants, a quantity of documents were removed. Two men have been arrested and are being questioned in central London by customs investigators.

Killer detained

A double killer who threw one man off a sixth-floor balcony and beat another to death was ordered to be detained indefinitely in a mental hospital. Robert Jeffrey, 43, from south London, was ruled unfit to plead because of a paranoid psychosis.

Producer dies

Julia Smith, the BBC producer who co-founded the soap opera *EastEnders* with Tony Holland in 1985, has died. Ms Smith, who has in her late sixties, also produced the ill-fated BBC soap *Eldorado* from 1991 to 1994.

Obituary, page 23

Party divided

Edinburgh's giant Hogmanay street party is to be halved in size and made an all-ticket affair in the interest of public safety. Last year more than 300,000 people attended the world's largest outdoor celebration, in which 580 were hurt, 35 with crush injuries.

Cocaine find

A British mother and her son, a minor, were arrested at Orly airport in Paris after 19 kilograms of cocaine was found in their luggage. The unnamed Britons were held on Monday on arrival from French Guiana. The drug was taped into their suitcase.

Gallipoli VC sold

The first Victoria Cross awarded posthumously by the Royal Navy has fetched £5,900 at auction. The medal was awarded to Petty Officer Billy Williams of Chelstow, who died aged 35 at Gallipoli in 1915. It was bought on behalf of a private collector.

City swingers

Work has begun on the world's first national museum devoted to popular music. Members of the groups Babybird, Heaven 17 and ABC, all from Sheffield, helped to launch the £15 million National Centre for Popular Music in the city.

Wedding sunk

An underwater wedding has been called off "with deep regret" after the bride and groom had cold feet about each other. Robert Scotland, 20, and Murag Shaw, 30, were to marry on Saturday at the Deep-Sea World aquarium in North Queensferry, Fife.

Muslim film's

...UTURE OR FREEPHONE

...DAYS A WEEK

...LWOOD

...A DIFFER

...DWOOD

...A DIFFERE

Boxing
promoter
held in
VAT raid

Killer detained

Producer dies

Party divide

Confidence

Capitalism

Car swindles

Wedding

s desert
the Moon

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

HOME NEWS 5

Protest outside shop accused of stocking video

Muslims riot over Indian film's 'insult' to Koran

By PAUL WILKINSON
AND RUTH GLEDHILL

A NEW film about the border war between India and Pakistan in 1971 has provoked violence between the Indian and Pakistani communities in Leeds. A video shop owned by a Sikh was attacked by young Muslims of Pakistani origin who believed it was hiring out the film called *Border*.

Up to 300 boys and young men hurled stones and bottles at police in the hour-long confrontation on Wednesday night. Four police officers were slightly injured, but there was no serious damage. Five people were arrested, three of them juveniles.

Some Muslim leaders later accused the police who were in riot equipment, of using heavy-handed tactics to disperse the crowd in the Harehills area.

The film's prejudice against Pakistan alarmed Indian film critics when it was previewed in Delhi. Muslims have been particularly enraged by a



Krishan said he had not stocked the film

scene in which the Koran is damaged.

Last night, Muslims were warned against a repeat of the unrest caused by Salman Rushdie's book *The Satanic Verses*. Sheikh Gamal Solaiman, a lecturer at the Muslim College in London, said:

"Tearing the Koran or throwing it away is very upsetting and it can cause rioting. I hope the leaders of the Muslim community will control things."

and calm the situation down. What happened in Salman Rushdie's case is enough to leave bitter memories."

Ahmed Versi, editor of *Muslim News*, said some people believed that the film demonised Muslims. He said, however, that a lot of the films made in "Bollywood", the thriving Bombay-based film industry, were anti-Muslim and anti-Pakistan.

Yesterday the owner of the video shop said that, before the riot, there had been threats to kill him and to set his shop on fire if he stocked the film.

Kewal Krishna, 37, who lives above the shop, said: "A vicious rumour seems to have gone round that I stocked it. I have not even got it on order." He was, however, selling copies of the soundtrack for £2.

A neighbouring Muslim shopkeeper said: "It was peaceful protest which turned nasty when the police dragged five lads into the back of their van. The rest of the crowd refused to leave until they were released. The same

would have happened in rural parts of England if they saw a film showing the same thing happening to the Bible."

Javed Akhtar, a city councillor, blamed much of the anger on the lack of opportunities for young Asian men. "If there had been fewer police and not so much heavy-handedness then the situation could have been a lot better. I do not think the film is important. It is a red herring. The youths were frustrated and looking for some sort of attention."

Superintendent Frank Farmer, of Chapeltown police, said: "There was no heavy-handed policing. A lot of people have approached us about the video, but we are still trying to establish the facts."

Border was released in Britain last week. Eros International, the distributor, said it was doing "extremely well".

A fire at the Delhi cinema showing the film last week killed 57 people and injured 100. It was caused by an electrical fault.

RAT-SHAH PRESENTS

VENUS LUX

J. P. FILMS

BORDER

Written & Directed By J.P.DUTTA

MUSIC ANUJALIKHAN
LYRICS JAVED AKHTAR

CASSETTES & CDS AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING SHOPS

Border, based on the 1971 war between India and Pakistan, is a product of the "Bollywood" film industry in Bombay

Girls are expelled for hate campaign

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

TWO 15-year-old girls have been expelled from school for starting a hate campaign against a female teacher.

Sandra Reid, 29, who teaches history at Dingwall Academy, Ross-shire, where her husband Brian is head of science, was the target of anonymous hate mail and death threats which were daubed on school walls five months ago.

In the latest incident, two abusive notes about the couple were left outside Mr Reid's science laboratory. The two girls involved were traced by their handwriting, confessed and were expelled.

The pair, who have not been named, were part of a gang of eight girls, aged between 12 and 15, temporarily excluded from the school in January for their part in the first harassment campaign.

The gang returned to the 1,180-pupil school in February after appearing before the Children's Panel, signing a contract of good behaviour and sending letters of apology to Mrs Reid. Highland Council must now find alternative schools for the two teenagers, who are at home after being expelled last Friday. Home tuition costs £1,700 a week.

Council must pay for tree damage

By A STAFF REPORTER

A COUPLE whose house was badly damaged by subsidence caused by the roots of a council-owned oak tree had a compensation award of almost £80,000 confirmed by the Appeal Court yesterday.

The ruling means that councils will be liable for any damage to property caused by the roots of trees on their land.

Lord Justice Schiemann upheld the decision of Southampton County Court last year in awarding Steven and Jane Hurst £78,823.

Their semi-detached house in Fareham suffered subsidence during the dry summer of 1989 when the 170-year-old tree, about 35ft away on a nearby verge, extracted moisture from the soil. Hampshire County Council was held to be responsible.

The judge ruled the council had a duty to ensure that the roots did not damage the Hursts' property. He said there was ample evidence that the subsidence was foreseeable. "The tree was an oak, a species that notoriously has a high water demand," he said. "The tree and the house were on clay, which is highly shrinkable. The geological survey clearly showed the nature of the soil."

TWO SPARKLING LITTLE NUMBERS FROM RENAULT.



THE RENAULT CLIO

FROM ONLY

£6,995

ON THE ROAD

THE RENAULT MEGANE

FROM ONLY

£9,995

ON THE ROAD

RENAULT

HARDWOOD FLOORS WITH A DIFFERENCE



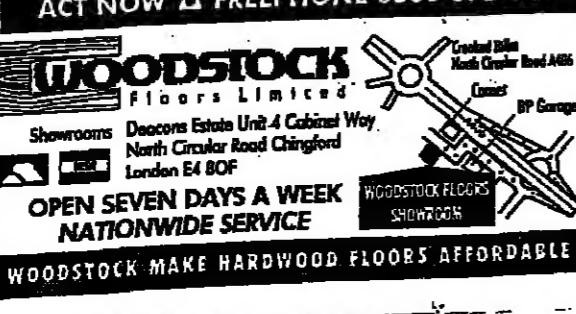
The traditional, yet contemporary, look of a real wood floor creates a warm, distinctive living atmosphere. Wicanders floors are ideal for most living areas, in both traditional and contemporary homes.

Active families have special needs. Wicanders' floors make cleaning and care easy. Simply vacuum or wipe over with a damp mop to restore your floor to its natural beauty.

To this style and practicality, Wicanders add warmth, strength and guaranteed durability, reflected by our 10 year wear warranty. Call us now and see why Wicanders and Woodstock must be your first choice!

- Wicanders floors are suitable for installation directly onto your existing floor.
- Choose block or planked mahogany, red oak, natural oak, maple, walnut, beech & cherry. The choice is vast.
- Unique pre-finish & polishing required. Almost maintenance free.
- Normally installed in a single day by our specially trained craftsmen.

FOR YOUR BROCHURE OR FREE SURVEY AND QUOTATION ACT NOW □ FREEPHONE 0500 678967



OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK
NATIONWIDE SERVICE

WOODSTOCK MAKE HARDWOOD FLOORS AFFORDABLE

CALL 0800 52 51 50 FOR YOUR NEAREST RENAULT DEALER

Expensive success for hamburger chain as judge upholds aspects of defendants' claims

MARKETING AND CHILDREN

The judge upheld a claim that McDonald's advertising and marketing made "considerable use of susceptible young children to bring in custom". McDonald's admits that much of its marketing appeals specifically to children. "It is important to us that a visit to McDonald's is an enjoyable experience for all the family," a spokesman said.

All McDonald's community involvement revolves around children, child welfare, education, youth-related social issues and the environment. The first Ronald McDonald House opened in 1974. These are built next to

hospitals and provide accommodation for families of seriously ill children. There are three in Britain and 168 worldwide. The Ronald McDonald clown, which appears at restaurants, playschemes and children's wards, is featured in advertising and packaging. There are also heavily promoted Happy Meals that contain plastic toys linked to Disney films.

Paul Preston, chairman of McDonald's Restaurants (UK) Ltd, said: "We comply with all legislation, all regulatory agencies and advertising practices. The judge has already said that we did not set out to deceive."

PAYMENT OF WORKERS

In his ruling the judge agreed with campaigners that McDonald's workers were underpaid. He said that the company "does pay its workers low wages, thereby helping to depress wages for workers in the catering trade in Britain". Starting salary for restaurant workers is £3 an hour, with an average of £3.98 an hour. This is well below the minimum wage of £4.42 being proposed by Unison, Britain's biggest union.

Management trainees start on £14,000. Qualified managers earn £16,000 to £22,000. General managers of larger restaurants earn £20,000 to £24,000. Area supervisors earn £22,000

to £40,000. Operations consultants earn £27,000 to £46,000. Operations managers get £35,000 to £57,000. A McDonald's spokesman said: "We set competitive rates throughout the world to attract quality staff."

Asked whether she felt exploited by the company, a female worker at a branch in Piccadilly had to have the term explained to her. She then said: "I think McDonald's is getting the better of the exchange."

Paul Preston, of McDonald's, said: "I am already on the record as saying I'm in favour of a minimum wage for the UK. I support that for sure."

TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

The judge said it was "true in substance and in fact" to say that McDonald's is culpably responsible for cruel practices in the rearing and slaughter of some of the animals used to produce its food.

Mr Justice Bell said these included keeping laying hens in battery cages, severe restrictions on the movement of broiler chickens and pigs, and slaughter methods that allowed some chickens to have their throats cut while conscious.

Paul Preston, of McDonald's, said he was puzzled by the judge's comments: "Our standards exceed the

minimum legal requirements. If those legal requirements need to be adjusted that is really a matter for the Government and agriculture."

Laying hens can be kept five to a cage each in a space no bigger than a A4 sheet of paper. It is recommended that the stocking density of broilers kept indoors should not exceed 16 birds per square metre. Narrow stalls for sows are being phased out, but will not become illegal until 1999. Chickens are supposed to be rendered unconscious before having their throats cut, although this does not always work.

TONY WHITE

Victory is ours, say McDonald's libel case losers

REPORTS BY FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE environmental activists who fought the McDonald's libel action over seven years claimed yesterday's ruling as a victory and staged an immediate act of defiance.

Helen Steel and Dave Morris gave leaflets summarising their allegations against McDonald's to crowds outside the law courts, shouting: "Judge for yourselves, read the leaflets. We will not be silenced."

The six-page leaflet that prompted the case, called *What's Wrong with McDonald's?*, was part of a campaign run by London Greenpeace, which has no connection with Greenpeace International.

McDonald's hoped that a ruling in its favour from the High Court in London would serve as deterrent to the worldwide protest campaign and as a vindication of their procedures and practices.

Yesterday Paul Preston, chairman and chief executive of McDonald's Restaurants Ltd (UK), said: "This judgment represents a thorough audit of our business. Based on the overwhelming evidence given in support of our case, we believe that our employees and customers will be reassured by the judgment."

At a press conference for McDonald's opponents, Michael Mansfield, QC, the leading left-wing lawyer, drew cheers when he said: "This clearly represents a major victory for these two individuals. We owe a debt of gratitude to these two young people who have dared to stand where others have not dared to tread. The issues touch every part of our working lives."

The write-ups issued seven years ago, the climax of the legal proceedings, lasted just two hours yesterday when Mr Justice Bell read out a 45-page summary of his judgment.

He found it was not true that McDonald's was responsible for destroying rainforests with lethal poisons to provide cattle grazing and timber for

JUDGMENT

packaging, thus helping to wreck the planet.

Nor was there evidence that McDonald's had bought vast tracts of land in Costa Rica, Guatemala or Brazil or that small farmers and tribal peoples had been dispossessed.

Mr Justice Bell said there was some evidence that McDonald's publicity in 1990 was misleading about the recycled content of some of its packaging in Britain but this did not justify the charge of lying.

On the health aspect of McDonald's food, he said the leaflet said it was high in fat, sugar, animal products and salt and low in fibre, vitamins and minerals. But the risk of heart disease, he said, was only true in relation to customers who are there several times a week over a period of years. The risk of bowel cancer might be increased to some extent

but there was no evidence in relation to breast cancer.

He said that some of McDonald's promotional claims that the food had a positive nutritional benefit "did not match" the reality of a product that was high in saturated fat and salt.

The judge upheld the activists' claim that McDonald's advertising and marketing "makes considerable use of susceptible young children to bring in custom, both their own and that of their parents who must accompany them". But the complaint that McDonald's promoted the consumption of its meals as a fun event, knowing full well that the contents could poison the children, was not justified.

The protesters had also shown that hens, broiler chickens and some pigs were treated cruelly by being given little room to move at least for some part of their lives. He said McDonald's was also "culpably responsible" for the "cruel practice" under which a small proportion of the millions of chickens slaughtered were still fully conscious when their throats were slit.

The risk of food poisoning from eating McDonald's products was minimal, he said, and the allegation that customers were exposed to residues of antibiotic drugs, growth promoting hormones and pesticides was not true.

The judge said there was evidence that McDonald's paid low wages, thereby helping to depress wages in the catering trade in Britain. But it was not true that the company was only interested in recruiting cheap labour and that it exploited disadvantaged workers, particularly women and black people.

The judge said McDonald's was entitled to compensation for damage to its trading reputation and goodwill and to vindicate its good name. He said that in awarding damages, the financial means of the defendants were irrelevant and he did not know whether the burger chain would seek to enforce the judgment.

TRIAL FACTS



□ Trial from June 1994 to November 1996 lasted 313 days, longest in English legal history.
□ Evidence given by 180 witnesses, and 40,000 documents were produced. Summing-up took eight weeks.

□ More than 2 million leaflets summarising the original allegations handed out since the trial began. Internet site McSpotlight accessed almost 12 million times since its launch in February 1996.
□ Estimated trial costs of £10 million would buy 5,434,782 Big Macs.

The write-ups issued seven years ago, the climax of the legal proceedings, lasted just two hours yesterday when Mr Justice Bell read out a 45-page summary of his judgment.

He found it was not true that McDonald's was responsible for destroying rainforests with lethal poisons to provide cattle grazing and timber for

CALLS FOR CHANGES TO THE LIBEL LAWS

don't have personal reputations as individual do and if they conduct themselves in a way which is open to criticism from time to time, then they should accept that such criticisms can be made."

Local authorities and public bodies are not allowed to sue for libel, he said. To extend the law to large corporations would be a logical extension of a recent ruling which said British Coal could not sue.

Mr Stephens also called for legal aid for libel. "If this had been available, the trial would have been over in three months and saved millions of pounds." It would have been cheaper for McDonald's to have paid for lawyers for the defendants, he said.

The fact that Ms Steel and Mr Morris, were forced to defend themselves was one of the main reasons for the length of the trial, at a daily cost of nearly £8,000 a day in legal fees, with the judge's deliberations taking six months.

A second factor was the nature of the allegations, spanning every aspect of the McDonald's corporation. Mr Morris said: "This case brought home to us how unfair, how oppressive, the libel laws are."

Some lawyers were also critical of Mr Justice Bell, handling his first big libel trial, for not exerting more control over the pace of the litigation or defining the issues. Such actions should be heard by specialist judges.

Others said that there would have been a need for despatch had there been a jury, which the judge ruled out because of the complexity of the case.

Defendants cannot remember handing out the fateful leaflet in 1986. They were more involved in other campaigns: Morris against the poll tax, Steel on the IMF and World Bank.

But they were both active members of an anti-McDonald's campaign. Their defence took over their lives, bringing unprecedented stress, but they do not regret it. Ms Steel said: "If I had known how long it was going to last — over seven years from the writs — how much work was involved, how daunting it was going to be, I would have fought it anyway. It's important to stand up for what you believe in."

They were shocked when writs were issued on September 20, 1990. Solicitors told them there was no legal aid for libel. Three protesters who also received writs went to court and apologised. Ms Steel and Mr Morris chose to fight.

Often it meant work around the clock. Mr Morris, a postman and lone parent on income support, was trying to look after his son, Charlie, now eight. Ms Steel, a former gardener, was trying to move from Yorkshire to Tottenham, where Mr Morris lived. He said: "I could work on the case only after my son had gone to sleep. For the first

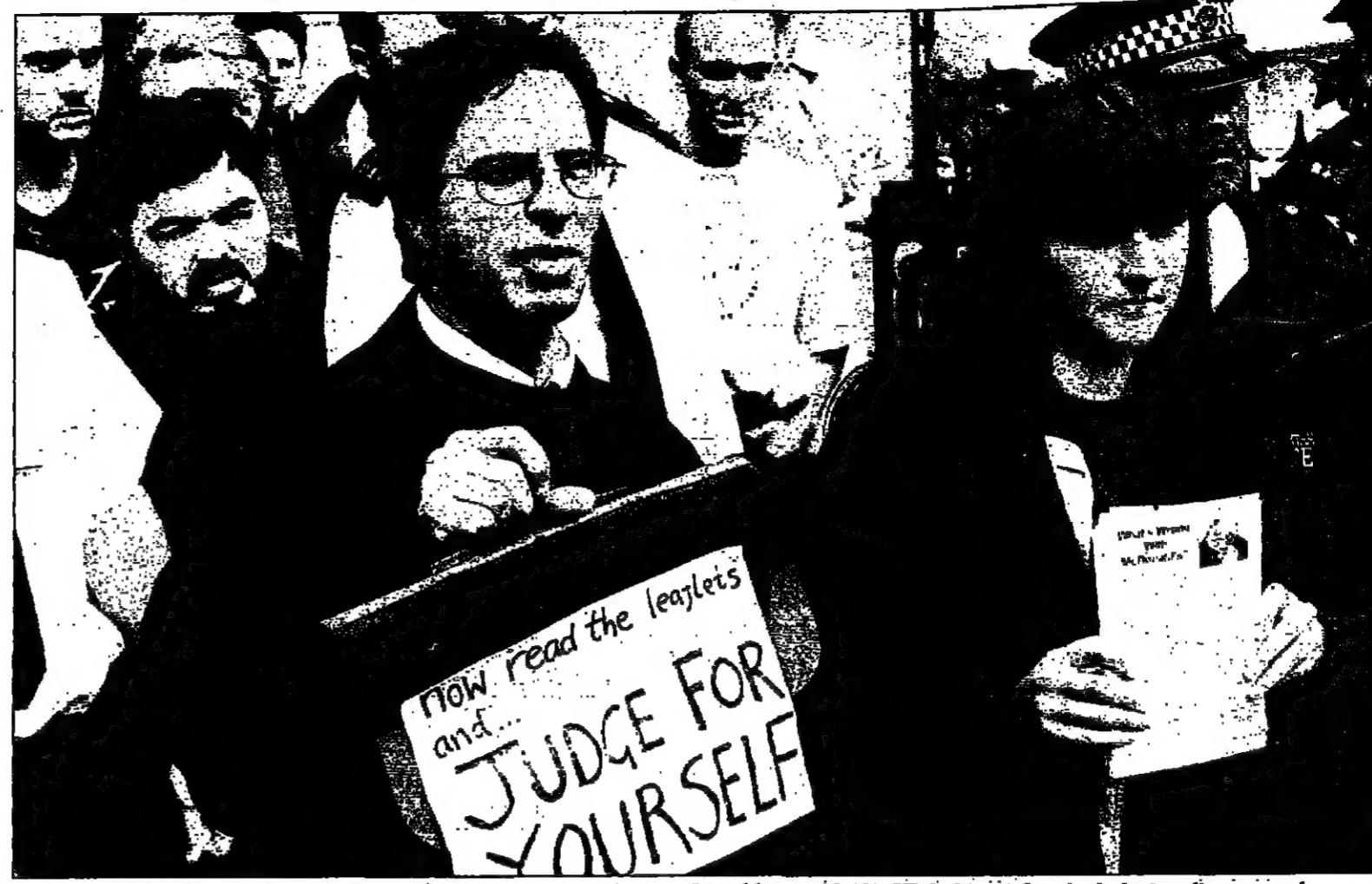
year, I was up until four in the morning." Ms Steel developed skin ailments after "phenomenal stress".

The worst moment, they said, was when all the witness statements had to be served in three weeks. Ms Steel almost gave up: "This came after a stream of 28 legal hearings. Dave persuaded me to hang on in there." They blitzed their supporters and friends and succeeded in mustering the 65 statements. From that moment, McDonald's knew they were in earnest. "They were stunned," she said.

The trial became a way of life. The daily Tube journey to the Royal Courts of Justice became an office on the move, where they studied the latest fixes or documents.

The McLibel Support Campaign raised £35,000 while McDonald's paid a legal team up to £8,000 a day. Mr Justice Bell allowed Mr Morris to use his chambers when Charlie had to be brought to court and adjourned the trial to accommodate half-terms.

Mr Morris said the experience was "empowering" and added: "Just as McDonald's are a symbol of the economic system, we have become the symbol of the alternative ideas. That gave us a lot of strength."



Dave Morris and Helen Steel renewing their protest against McDonald's outside the High Court after the judge's ruling yesterday

Case highlights need for legal shake-up, say experts

CALLS FOR CHANGES TO THE LIBEL LAWS

don't have personal reputations as individual do and if they conduct themselves in a way which is open to criticism from time to time, then they should accept that such criticisms can be made."

Local authorities and public bodies are not allowed to sue for libel, he said. To extend the law to large corporations would be a logical extension of a recent ruling which said British Coal could not sue.

Mr Stephens also called for legal aid for libel. "If this had been available, the trial would have been over in three months and saved millions of pounds." It would have been cheaper for McDonald's to have paid for lawyers for the defendants, he said.

The fact that Ms Steel and Mr Morris, were forced to defend themselves was one of the main reasons for the length of the trial, at a daily cost of nearly £8,000 a day in legal fees, with the judge's deliberations taking six months.

A second factor was the nature of the allegations, spanning every aspect of the McDonald's corporation. Mr Morris said: "This case brought home to us how unfair, how oppressive, the libel laws are."

Some lawyers were also critical of Mr Justice Bell, handling his first big libel trial, for not exerting more control over the pace of the litigation or defining the issues. Such actions should be heard by specialist judges.

Others said that there would have been a need for despatch had there been a jury, which the judge ruled out because of the complexity of the case.

Defendants cannot remember handing out the fateful leaflet in 1986. They were more involved in other campaigns: Morris against the poll tax, Steel on the IMF and World Bank.

But they were both active members of an anti-McDonald's campaign. Their defence took over their lives, bringing unprecedented stress, but they do not regret it. Ms Steel said: "If I had known how long it was going to last — over seven years from the writs — how much work was involved, how daunting it was going to be, I would have fought it anyway. It's important to stand up for what you believe in."

They were shocked when writs were issued on September 20, 1990. Solicitors told them there was no legal aid for libel. Three protesters who also received writs went to court and apologised. Ms Steel and Mr Morris chose to fight.

Often it meant work around the clock. Mr Morris, a postman and lone parent on income support, was trying to look after his son, Charlie, now eight. Ms Steel, a former gardener, was trying to move from Yorkshire to Tottenham, where Mr Morris lived. He said: "I could work on the case only after my son had gone to sleep. For the first

No regrets, say the campaigners

DEFENDANTS

DAVE MORRIS and Helen Steel cannot remember handing out the fateful leaflet in 1986. They were more involved in other campaigns: Morris against the poll tax, Steel on the IMF and World Bank.

But they were both active members of an anti-McDonald's campaign. Their defence took over their lives, bringing unprecedented stress, but they do not regret it. Ms Steel said: "If I had known how long it was going to last — over seven years from the writs — how much work was involved, how daunting it was going to be, I would have fought it anyway. It's important to stand up for what you believe in."

They were shocked when writs were issued on September 20, 1990. Solicitors told them there was no legal aid for libel. Three protesters who also received writs went to court and apologised. Ms Steel and Mr Morris chose to fight.

Often it meant work around the clock. Mr Morris, a postman and lone parent on income support, was trying to look after his son, Charlie, now eight. Ms Steel, a former gardener, was trying to move from Yorkshire to Tottenham, where Mr Morris lived. He said: "I could work on the case only after my son had gone to sleep. For the first

year, I was up until four in the morning." Ms Steel developed skin ailments after "phenomenal stress".

The worst moment, they said, was when all the witness statements had to be served in three weeks. Ms Steel almost gave up: "This came after a stream of 28 legal hearings. Dave persuaded me to hang on in there." They blitzed their supporters and friends and succeeded in mustering the 65 statements. From that moment, McDonald's knew they were in earnest. "They were stunned," she said.

The trial became a way of life. The daily Tube journey to the Royal Courts of Justice became an office on the move, where they studied the latest fixes or documents.

The McLibel Support Campaign raised £35,000 while McDonald's paid a legal team up to £8,000 a day. Mr Justice Bell allowed Mr Morris to use his chambers when Charlie had to be brought to court and adjourned the trial to accommodate half-terms.

Mr Morris said the experience was "empowering" and added: "Just as McDonald's are a symbol of the economic system, we have become the symbol of the alternative ideas. That gave us a lot of strength."

Better spec. Better price. Better buy Dell.

DELL DIMENSION™ M166a

- INTEL PENTIUM® PROCESSOR WITH MMX™ TECHNOLOGY 166MHz
- 16MB SDRAM
- 512KB CACHE
- 2Gb EIDE HARD DRIVE
- INTEGRATED S3 VIRGE DX VIDEO WITH 2Mb EDO VIDEO MEMORY
- 15" COLOUR SVGA MONITOR (11.75" VIEWABLE AREA)
- 3 PCI, 2 ISA AND 1 PCI/ISA SHARED EXPANSION SLOTS
- MID-SIZED DESKTOP CHASSIS

£849 (£1,026.95)

incl. delivery & VAT



OFFER CLOSES
28TH JUNE



pentium®

There are a lot of PCs on offer. But we challenge you to buy better than Dell. Take the Dell Dimension™ M166a: it offers a fast 166MHz Pentium® processor with MMX™ technology with a system spec. to match. Can you bear its price of just £849 (£1,026.95 inc. delivery and VAT)?

you better the support of the world's largest direct PC manufacturer? Can you get an equivalent system built for you with a single phone call or website visit? Examine all the options and we think you'll be better off buying Dell. So better type www.dell.com/uk or call us now.

the

ONLY

BIG

APPLE

V'm

interested

IN

三

1

CHISEL

JERSEY.

Builders and designers breathe a sigh of relief as Millennium Exhibition work is cleared to continue

Dome chiefs baffled by Blair's five demands

By DOMINIC KENNEDY
and DANIEL McGROarty

THE builders, managers and designers who are creating the millennium dome in Greenwich were baffled last night by the five new demands sprung on them by Tony Blair.

None of them knew what the Prime Minister's action plan meant in practice but all were prepared, for now, to continue their timetable as planned, grateful at least to get the Government's long-awaited approval.

Downing Street announced that five tough new tests would be applied to relaunch the controversial £750 million scheme as Mr Blair tried to distance himself from the unpopular and vague blueprints so far produced.

The Prime Minister donned wellingtons and a hard hat to inspect the acres of mud at Greenwich, where a giant pile-driver will begin work on the foundations of the enormous PVC dome on Monday.

Mr Blair asked: "Are we in Britain going to give people a derelict site, or the finest exhibition that the world has seen? In the year 2000, as the country that is the home of time, here on the millennium at the meridian line, we ought to be making a statement to the world about Britain."

These plans require a leap of faith. It is not the easy thing to do. It is the bold thing to do. It could be, if we get it right, and we mean to get it right, the most exciting thing happening in the world in the year 2000."

Mr Blair said he would present new plans next week. His first demand is that the exhibition be permanent rather than have to be pulled down within a couple of years. The architect of the dome, Richard Rogers, said that there would be no need to go back to the drawing board to meet that condition.

Millennium Central, which



Tony Blair during his visit yesterday to the exhibition centre site in Greenwich. Builders are expected to begin work on foundations for the giant transparent dome on Monday



will operate the show, said that the PVC fabric which will cover the transparent dome was designed to last for 15 years, after which it could be replaced at low expense. The steel frame is much more durable.

A spokesman for the organisation added: "It is up to the developer who takes over the site to decide whether they want to keep that sort of roof. But it would not be prohibi-

tively expensive to replace it with a similar roof."

Possible future uses include a stadium for a London Olympic bid (Wembley will be only 35 minutes from Greenwich on the new Jubilee Line), a theme park run by Tussauds, or a British version of Hollywood's Universal Studios tour.

Mr Blair's second test is that there should be no burden on the public purse beyond the

present budget, which includes £175 million business sponsorship and the same sum from sales of the "time tickets", which will be watches.

His third demand is for the content of the exhibition to be made more exciting. "The dome is merely the covering," Mr Blair said. "What is important is what goes inside it and how we build a legacy for the future so it is not just

something that will be here for a year and disappear."

Fourthly, the project must relate to the whole nation. Imagination, the London design company that came up with the original ideas, was unable to shed any light on what that meant. Its original plan was chosen because it was preceded by a programme of nationwide events in the two years before 2000.

Finally, Mr Blair insists,

there must be a new management structure with an influx of people who can provide ideas and a creative force. Yesterday the Millennium Commission, which decided to hold the show using £400 million of lottery players' money, was still awaiting official notification of Mr Blair's five tests and unable to offer any clarification. Millennium Central was in the same position.

Richard Branson, chairman

of the Virgin group, who has been a leading opponent of the dome, said: "This Government inherited a problem and has at least got the imagination to look for a solution."

Keeping the structure in place indefinitely would deal with our principal concern. Now perhaps the structure could be built in such a way so as it could be converted into a giant sports and conference facility to enable Britain to stand a chance of winning the right to put on the Olympics one day."

The two main contractors, McAlpine and Laing, say that the Prime Minister's revised schedule will not affect its costs or its building plan.

The site has been cleared and piling will begin on schedule early next week. Lord Rogers described Mr Blair's decision to press ahead with the exhibition as courageous and visionary. "It is a huge vote of confidence in the people of this nation and their ability to create and deliver an event of world significance," he said.

He also supported Mr Blair's idea that the project should involve more than just the exhibition site in South London. "The millennium celebration must draw participation from throughout the nation and create at Greenwich the centre of a national network of celebrations and exhibitions."

Leading article, page 21

Children want more entertainment and less education

By DAVID CHARTER
AND JOHN O'LEARY

PLANS for the Millennium Exhibition outlined in *The Times* yesterday left teenagers consulted in a straw poll yearning for more excitement.

Tony Blair said that he wanted an exhibition that would pass the "Euan test" by commanding the interest of his 13-year-old son. Children of a similar age said the plans

put too much emphasis on education and too little on entertainment.

In trying to attract school parties the show will have to compete with theme parks such as Alton Towers, which now complements its renowned white-knuckle rides with an education centre.

A group of 14-year-old girls at King Edward VI Handsworth School, Birmingham, liked the details of the exhibition but saw room

for improvement. The latest plans include a virtual reality space walk, toys of the future and holograms of great inventions.

Clare Lester said: "It sounds really high-tech and interesting. But it is meant to be a fun celebration isn't it? It seemed a bit educational to me; a bit like a science fair."

Sukhbir Nahl said: "It is a good idea but one thing which disturbed me was that it was too sciency and

some people might not find it very interesting. We should have more sport involved as well."

Catherine Jakson liked the futuristic ideas but said: "I might want to go but it would not be my top priority. I sounds more like a museum and not really something I can interact with."

The £750 million cost was too high for Adam Shelton of Simon Langton Grammar School for Boys in Canterbury, Kent. Adam, 14, said: "It is too much to spend on an exhibition when you could spend it on good causes like homelessness, education and medical research."

He added: "The plan looked interesting but it would not come above things like Alton Towers for my age group. I would like to go just because it is for the millennium but personally I get bored very quickly going round museums."

LAURA ASHLEY

..NEWS..UPDATE..

HOME FURNISHINGS ALL ACROSS BRITAIN

ARE STILL COMING DOWN FOR OUR:

1/2 HOME SALE

PRICE

NOW ON!

DON'T FORGET...

THE LAST 3 DAYS OF 15% OFF UPHOLSTERED
FURNITURE. OFFER ENDS SUNDAY 22ND JUNE

For your nearest Laura Ashley store call 0990 622116

*Original price. Selected items only. While stocks last.

Bishops reject extending lay powers

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

BISHOPS in the Church of England have rejected calls for lay people to stand in for priests at Holy Communion. In a report published today, the bishops argue that the distinction between the ministry of ordained and lay people must be retained.

Some Church leaders, mostly from the evangelical wing, have been calling for lay people to be sanctioned to "preside" at Holy Communion services. Others have urged the relaxation of rules, particularly in provinces where there is a shortage of ordained priests.

Lay people are currently allowed to officiate at morning and evening prayer and to help a priest to distribute the Sacrament at a communion service. When a priest is unavailable, a lay person can also baptise an individual in extreme circumstances, for instance if they are close to death.

The matter has been brought to the fore in the Church of England by the steady decline in the number of full-time clergy. In rural areas, one priest can be covering half a dozen parishes. Because they cannot be expected to take a communion service at each parish every Sunday, some parishes have to go without communion.

Nazis 'bombed Dublin to punish aid for Belfast'

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

GERMAN bombers attacked Dublin during the Second World War to intimidate the Irish and prevent them assisting the Allies, according to new research.

A study of German records in Munich appears to overturn a long-held view that neutral Ireland was bombed in May 1941 by a plane that had flown off course. The attack, which left 34 dead and 80 seriously injured, was a planned assault on Ireland to reprimand its Government for sending fire engines to Belfast to fight bomb blazes, according to Leo Sheridan, an investigator of air and naval accidents.

Mr Sheridan, who studied Luftwaffe files in Germany and reports from Bletchley Park, London, where code-breaking operations were carried out, said the Germans devised Operation Roman Helmet to teach the Dublin Government a lesson for breaching its neutrality.

In April 1941, Eamon de Valera, the Irish Prime Minister, had appealed to a call for help and sent fire engines to Belfast to quench the fires after a German attack which killed 700. De Valera dismissed Nazi complaints by saying that the Irish Government claimed sovereignty over Northern Ireland.

Mr Sheridan, 64, originally from Galway but now based in France, said: "The English newspapers carried reports

of the horrors and force the hand of the Irish." In the attack, 25 houses were destroyed and 300 more were so badly damaged that they were abandoned. The aircraft dropped a bomb in Phoenix Park which shattered the windows of the President's home, then flew to the city centre, claims Mr Sheridan, to destroy the Tara Street fire station. That bomb fell into the River Liffey.

No more fire engines were sent to Northern Ireland, although there was not another blaze serious enough to warrant it. The Germans apologised a month later for the attack and in the 1960s paid compensation to bereaved families.

They also paid compensation to families of three dairy workers killed by a 1940 bomb attack in Campile, Co Wexford. Historians remain divided over whether the attack was intentional to prevent dairy supplies to Britain.

Ronan Fanning, of the Modern History Department in University College, Dublin, said that the findings were plausible, although he was sceptical about the claims that the British warned the Irish.

He said: "If it is documented and if every item is correct, then the really startling thing about all of this is that the British code-breakers tipped off the Irish defence forces, and that I find really hard to believe."

How *The Times* of 1941 reported the bombing

Ancient plough turns up near Eton

By NORMAN HAMMOND
ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

THE oldest plough ever found in Britain has been recovered from the Thames gravels near Eton. Dating back some 2,800 years, the wooden plough was found during excavation for an Olympic-sized rowing lake for Eton College.

Technically known as an ard, because the head and stilt are made from a single piece of timber — the trunk and branch of a maple tree — the plough has been radiocarbon-dated by the British Museum to between 900 BC and 800 BC. That makes it four centuries older than a similar ard found recently in Scotland.

Tim Allen of the Oxford Archaeological Unit said: "The ard is made from field maple, a hardwood resistant to wear and with the flexibility to withstand shocks while ploughing, like hitting stones. It dates to the late Bronze Age and was found near a complex of ditched enclosures which were probably arable fields."

The find was made near a wooden jem, the piles of which were also preserved in the waterlogged riverside deposits. Cereal grains have also been found, together with pottery vessels, human skulls and bodies and animal remains. Mr Allen believes they may have been offerings to the Thames, such water-deity cults were common in late prehistoric Europe. The

ard had apparently broken in use because its head was not worn out. It supplants another early ard as Britain's oldest: the well-preserved example found at Pict's Knowe near Dumfries in 1994 has since been dated to about AD 180.

Evidence of ard agriculture, though not the tools themselves, is much older: the characteristic criss-cross ploughmarks used to break the sod before the introduction of iron ploughshares, were found during redevelopment near London Bridge in 1988 and dated to about 2000 BC. Even older marks have been found under Neolithic burial mounds in Wessex, suggesting that ards were employed in Britain some 6,000 years ago.

Cholera makes a comeback

E95,000

BSE lets buffalo roam into shepherds' crook business

BY PAUL WILKINSON

LAWS to contain "mad cow" disease could mean the traditional carved ram's horn handle on shepherds' crooks being replaced by water buffalo.

Horn from the animal more usually seen in the paddy fields of Asia than the pastures of Britain is gradually taking over from the ram at the head of the familiar stick carried by generations of hill farmers and shepherds.

New regulations intended to combat the spread of BSE and infection from other spe-

cies, such as sheep, now define rams' horns as offal, which must be destroyed in abattoirs.

A spokesman for Horn and Country Crafts, of Hawick, Borders, one of Britain's largest suppliers of horns, said: "It is becoming increasingly difficult to get hold of rams' horns as the supplies get used up. They are usually seasoned for at least a year before going to stickmakers, but now the stocks are running low."

"Water buffalo horns have

been imported from India by some suppliers as an alternative and they are very good, but they are not British and not traditional."

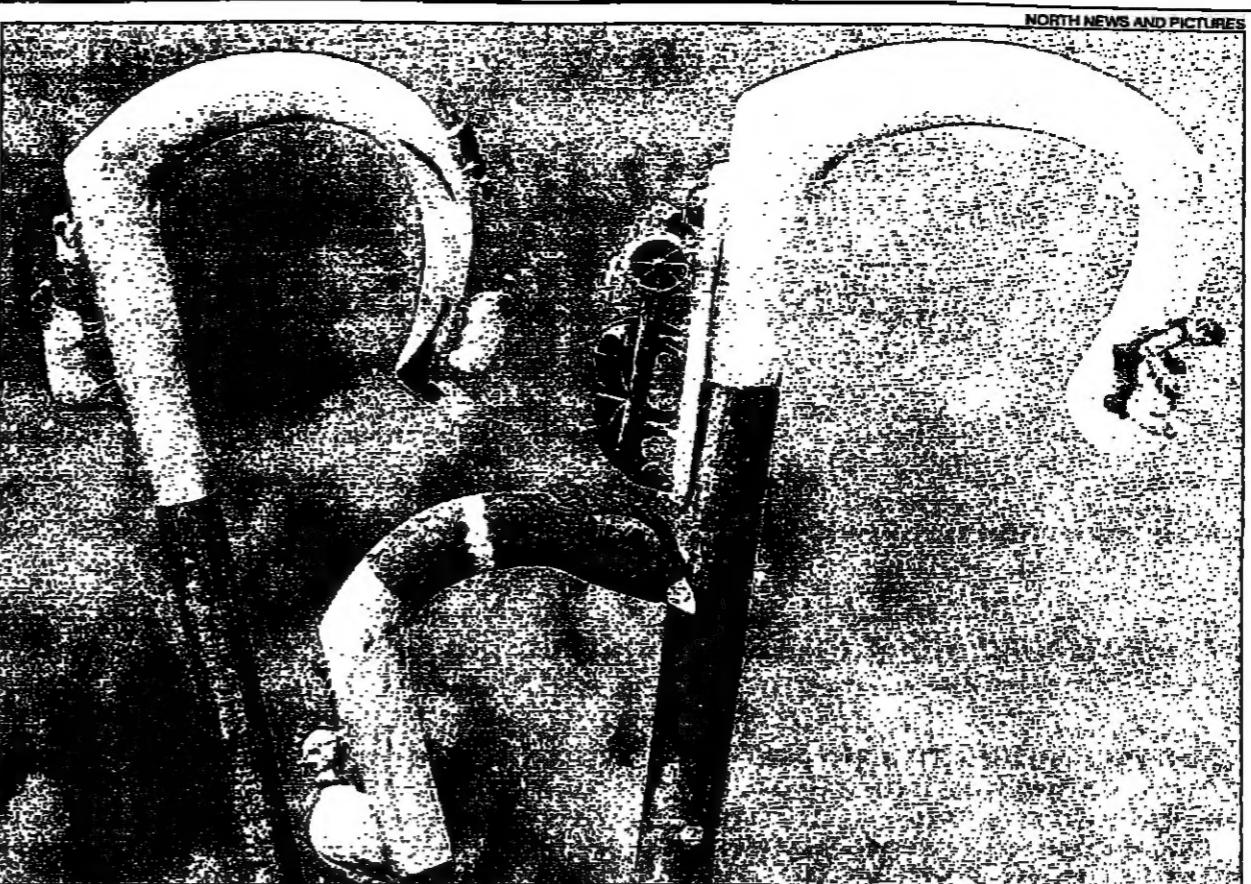
"The ram's horn is the best to work with. Treated properly they are virtually indestructible and form a beautiful curve ideal for a handle."

"It would be a great shame if this traditional craft were to die out. I think a black market will develop for genuine rams' horns," the spokesman said.

A ram's horn can cost up to £15. It is first boiled to destroy the animal tissue inside and shaped by heating with a blowtorch. The softened material is then bent and held in place with clamps.

The best sticks, fashioned from elm or hawthorn, can take more than 100 hours to complete and sell for up to £200.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Agriculture confirmed that, under the regulations, rams' horns have to be destroyed. "It is purely a precaution, but the Government has agreed to act on the advice of scientists who are studying the BSE problem. They said



Handle with care: intricately designed shepherds' crooks of ram's horn can take up to 100 hours to make

offal should be taken out of the food chain to minimise the risk, and horns are classed as offal."

Eric Ibbotson, spokesman for the Northern Stickmakers Association in Darlington, Co

Durham, said: "It is starting to prove a real problem, with supplies of horns running out. Personally I do not think it is necessary to ban the sale of rams' horns."

"They are thoroughly treat-

ed and it's not as if they are going to be eaten by anyone."

Mr Ibbotson, 65, who took up

stickmaking when he retired from the railways five years ago, said: "Stick making is a traditional

craft dating from biblical times and the ram's horn is the crowning glory. It can take a long time to complete a stick, but there is an enormous sense of satisfaction at the end."

The protesters are considering an appeal to the Lords.

Foreign field: British crooks could be on way out

Trainee surgeons allowed to operate unsupervised

BY IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

LARGE numbers of trainee surgeons and young consultants are performing major operations for the first time without an experienced trainer present.

Many such operations are performed in emergency units, but procedures including kidney transplants, mastectomies and stapling the stomachs of obese patients have all been carried out by unsupervised doctors who have never performed that kind of surgery before.

To determine how widespread the practice is, Janet Wilson, professor of head and neck surgery at Newcastle University, collected information from 276 general and specialist ear and throat surgeons. The results, she says in an article published in the *British Medical Journal* today, are in line with earlier surveys suggesting that two

thirds of all operations carried out by surgical trainees are unassisted.

She found that house officers had undertaken operations for removal of glands, the gall bladder, the spleen and the stomach without a senior doctor present. Among procedures carried out for the first time by unassisted registrars were a triple bypass for cancer of the pancreas, repair of a damaged liver, gall bladder treatment, removal of the gullet and of the prostate. Twenty registrars had carried out large bowel resections and six had repaired aneurysms without their trainer present. Among the specialists, 73

per cent carried out complicated procedures which they had never seen in training and 41 had performed operations which they had only observed as trainees. One reason for this was that one of the procedures involved was a new one which had only just been introduced in Britain. However, 38 of the operations were well-known but the surgeon had never had the opportunity of learning how to do them with the help of an experienced trainer.

Professor Wilson writes: "Most responsible trainees and members of the public will agree with the view of the trainees that unsupervised

first time surgery is not ideal training."

Claire Rayner, president of the Patients' Association, said: "It is a worry, but it is the inevitable result of the pursuit of efficiency and the fact that junior doctors, quite rightly, now work shorter hours. It all means fewer staff and that means that this sort of thing is inevitable. The only way to get this right is to put more money into the NHS."

"But haven't they done a wonderful job? We don't hear of patients dying in droves from this sort of thing."

Dr John Spiers, chairman of the Patients' Association, said: "Junior doctors told the Audit Commission a year ago that they were working beyond their competence and the Government failed to respond. People have to be trained but they have to be under supervision while they are untrained. It is one thing in an emergency but quite wrong with elective surgery. It is intolerable."

Cholera makes a comeback

BY IAN MURRAY

THERE has been a resurgence of cholera in the 1990s, with millions of cases and tens of thousands of deaths worldwide. More cases have been reported to the World Health Organisation each year this decade than in any other since surveillance began.

The danger of the illness spreading rapidly is exacerbated by air travel, according to a report in *The Lancet* today. South America, where cholera reappeared in 1991 after being unknown for more than a century, is the most dangerous area. Since 1991, 1.4 million cases have been reported there, leading to 10,000 deaths.

An epidemic of a different strain began in India and Bangladesh in 1992. There is no cross-immunity with other strains and to date there have been 200,000 cases. Vaccines may give some immunity, but the report says clean water and good hygiene are the only sure ways to deal with it.

Herpes linked to bone cancer

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

AMERICAN scientists have found that a herpes virus may be responsible for multiple myeloma, a bone marrow cancer that affects 1,500 people a year in Britain.

This discovery could provide a new approach to treating or preventing this form of cancer. There is evidence that the virus is also present in a pre-cancerous condition that sometimes leads to multiple myeloma, so early detection and treatment with drugs or vaccines might prevent the cancer developing.

Researchers have been searching for a viral cause of cancer for many years, with limited success. But a team from the Veterans Affairs West Los Angeles Medical Centre, led by James Bernstein and Matthew Rettig, report in *Science* that a herpes virus appears to be implicated in multiple myeloma.

The virus is not found not in the cancer cells themselves but in so-called dendritic cells

nearby. The virus pumps out a protein called interleukin-6 that is known to stimulate myeloma cell growth.

The same virus is found in Kaposi's sarcoma, a cancer suffered by many Aids patients, but previous attempts to find it in myeloma had failed. Only by culturing the cells to increase the proportion of dendritic cells and then multiplying up the viral DNA could the virus be detected, the Los Angeles team reports.

The virus was detected in the dendritic cells of all the 15 myeloma patients studied, and in healthy people or people with other types of cancer. "We have identified the virus consistently in 100 per cent of the myeloma patients," Dr Bernstein says. "That percentage is amazing."

The virus, called Kaposi's Sarcoma-Associated Herpes Virus, is not one of the common types that cause coldsores, genital herpes or chicken pox and shingles.

HRT helps women to live longer

FROM TOM RHODES
IN WASHINGTON

WOMEN who take oestrogen for years after menopause are substantially lowering their general risks of premature death, two studies showed yesterday.

In the first decade of hormone replacement, the chance of dying from all causes was cut by 37 per cent, said a study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* stated.

A second report in *Neurology* said consistent oestrogen intake reduced the risk of death from Alzheimer's by 54 per cent.

The mortality benefit among those taking hormones appeared to drop to 20 per cent after ten years, said a study in the *New England Journal of Medicine* stated.

However, even the women

who were most likely to contract breast cancer seemed to benefit from oestrogen. Researchers said that the risk of premature death was cut by 35 per cent.

£95,000 for dance-lover who lost arm

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A GREAT-GRANDMOTHER whose ballroom dancing days were ended when her left arm was amputated after an alleged medical blunder accepted a £95,000 settlement yesterday.

Ealing, Hammersmith and Fulham health authority offered the payment two days into a High Court hearing, but did not accept that staff at West Middlesex Hospital had been negligent in their treatment of Patricia Bird, 67.

The court was told that Mrs Bird was once a happy and outgoing woman but was now constantly depressed about her appearance. She had never returned to her first love, Latin American dancing, for which she had won medals. Her lawyers claimed that prompt treatment of blood clots might have saved her arm and "prevented all the misery that followed".

The court was told that Mrs Bird, who has six great-grandchildren, had a

history of poor circulation and cold, blue fingers on her left hand when she was admitted to West Middlesex Hospital, in Isleworth, west London, on March 6, 1991. Her counsel, Brian Langstaff, QC, said that hospital staff had been wrong to treat her condition "conservatively" with drugs and had negligently delayed an operation to remove blood clots from her arm.

Mrs Bird, of Isleworth, was operated on ten days after her admission to the hospital, by which time it was too late to stave off amputation, he said. She had never recovered from the shock of the amputation, he added.

In the middle of evidence, after negotiations outside court, Mr Langstaff told Mr Justice Roemer that his client had accepted £95,000 in settlement of her claim. Michael Curwen, for the health authority, told the judge that his client made no admission of liability.



Patricia Bird: won dance medals

Villagers lose fight to block new homes

BY A STAFF REPORTER

RESIDENTS have lost their battle in the Court of Appeal to block plans for thousands of new homes which they fear could obliterate the characters of four villages mentioned in the Domesday Book.

The parish councils of Felsted, Takeley, Birchanger and Little Dunmow, in Essex, were fighting for a fresh public inquiry into a scheme for 2,500 homes for workers at Stansted airport. But three senior appeal judges ruled that there had been no unfairness to the villagers when Uttlesford District Council refused a second inquiry.

During the hearing John Steel, QC, appearing for the parish councils and Felsted and Little Dunmow Conservation Association, told the judges that objectors had been virtually locked out of the planning process and prevented from properly putting their views at the original inquiry. But the judges rejected the villagers' claims that George Bartlett, QC, erred in law when he ruled in July against an application for judicial review.

The protesters are considering an appeal to the Lords.

CORDLESS WITH ANSWER MACHINE FROM UNDER £80

BT77 CORDLESS TELEPHONE WITH DIGITAL ANSWERING MACHINE
"Features meet with the needs of the home or office"
WHAT CELLPHONE & ANSWERING MACHINE OFFERS
AWARD OF EXCELLENCE
• Intercom facility
• 8 channel automatic selection for clearance
• Call counter
• Date and time stamp
Model FREESTYLE 1100 was £129.99
£19.99 SAVE £10

Southwestern Bell CORDLESS TELEPHONE WITH ANSWERING MACHINE
Intercom facility/8 channel automatic selection
8 memory
Cell screening/Wall mountable, Model FF880, was £39.99 previously £39.99
£79.99 SAVE £20

CORDLESS TELEPHONES FROM UNDER £50
BT77 CORDLESS TELEPHONE
• Playing facility
• Channel automatic selection for clearer calls
• Clearer calls
• Last number redial
• Wall mountable
Model FREESTYLE 80 was £74.99
£69.99 SAVE £5

Southwestern Bell CORDLESS TELEPHONE
Intercom facility/8 channel automatic selection for clearer calls/8 channel
Wall mountable Model FF780A was £39.99
£49.99 SAVE £10

ANSWERING MACHINES FROM UNDER £25
Southwestern Bell TELEPHONE WITH ANSWERING MACHINE
Call screening/Micro cassette technology
• Micro cassette
• Last number redial
Model FA3000
£24.99 SAVE £10

BT77 ANSWERING MACHINE
Call screening/Micro cassette technology
• Micro cassette
• Last number redial
Model FA3000
£24.99 SAVE £10

BT77 TELEPHONE WITH ANSWERING MACHINE
20 memories
Date and time stamp
Call counter
Remote access
Model TAM928
£49.99 NEW

TELEPHONES FROM UNDER £9
VENTURER 2-PIECE FEATURE
• Hands free speakerphone - allows you to talk without holding the receiver
• 10 memories
• Date and time stamp
• Call counter
• Remote access
Model 493
£19.99 HANDSFREE SPEAKERPHONE

Binatone 2-PIECE TELEPHONE
10 memories
Speakerphone
Last number redial
Wall mountable
Model DIALOGUE 10 was £39.99
£8.99 SAVE 10%

THE COMET PRICE PROMISE
If you buy any product from Comet, then within 14 days find the same offer on sale locally at a lower price, we'll willingly refund the difference, PLUS 10% OF THAT DIFFERENCE.
Ask in store for full details.
THE COMET PRICE PROMISE
To help you make the right choice, Comet have invited What's On and Personal Office magazine to independently test our products and recommend the best buys. Look out for symbols on this page and in-store.

ONE 2 ONE NOW COVERS 80% OF GB POPULATION

Now covering 80% of the GB population and expected to rise to 95% by the end of the year, One 2 One is the fastest growing digital network. For more details on coverage in your area please call this One 2 One coverage line - 0956 956956.

£199.99* SAVE £45

ONE 2 ONE NOW COVERS 80% OF GB POPULATION

Now covering 80% of the GB population and expected to rise to 95% by the end of the year, One 2 One is the fastest growing digital network. For more details on coverage in your area please call this One 2 One coverage line - 0956 956956.

£199.99* SAVE £45

ONE 2 ONE NOW COVERS 80% OF GB POPULATION

Now covering 80% of the GB population and expected to rise to 95% by the end of the year, One 2 One is the fastest growing digital network. For more details on coverage in your area please call this One 2 One coverage line - 0956 956956.

£199.99* SAVE £45

ONE 2 ONE NOW COVERS 80% OF GB POPULATION

Now covering 80% of the GB population and expected to rise to 95% by the end of the year, One 2 One is the fastest growing digital network. For more details on coverage in your area please call this One 2 One coverage line - 0956 956956.

£199.99* SAVE £45

ONE 2 ONE NOW COVERS 80% OF GB POPULATION

Now covering 80% of the GB population and expected to rise to 95% by the end of the year, One 2 One is the fastest growing digital network. For more details on coverage in your area please call this One 2 One coverage line - 0956 956956.

£199.99* SAVE £45

ONE 2 ONE NOW COVERS 80% OF GB POPULATION

Seized computer records showed how Briton living in Amsterdam kept track of cocaine shipment

Drug baron who amassed £40m fortune is jailed for smuggling

FROM MARK FULLER IN THE HAGUE

ONE of Britain's wealthiest men was jailed for 12 years by a Dutch court yesterday for masterminding a massive drug smuggling operation.

Curtis Warren, 34, from Liverpool, named Target One by Interpol, was the absolute leader of an international drugs ring which trafficked in enormous volumes of cocaine, heroin, hashish and Ecstasy. Judge Holtrop said. However, the judge said that he had moderated the prosecutor's demand for a maximum 16-year sentence because Warren did not belong to "the extremely violent drugs barons".

Warren, who did not appear in court, had rejected earlier proceedings against him as being "a police set-up". He will appeal.

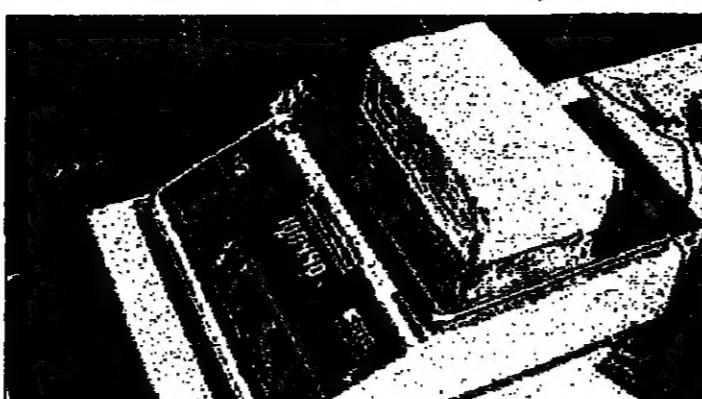
Warren was named last month as one of Britain's wealthiest men, with a £40 million fortune. He moved to The Netherlands in 1995, from where he controlled the drugs

ring. Extensive bugging exposed his control of the operation. Police obtained records from his computer showing him tracking a huge shipment of cocaine from South America to Rotterdam. He was responsible for several large shipments of drugs seized by British Customs before his arrest, the court was told.

Three other Britons and a Colombian were also jailed yesterday for their involvement in the gang.

Stephen Mee, 38, from Manchester; Stephen Whitehead, 34, from Oldham; and Javier Atehortua were each jailed for seven years. John Farrel, 34, from Manchester was given a 12-month sentence after the judge said that he had played only a minor role in the ring.

Judge Holtrop said he had substantially moderated Mee's sentence because he faced a 22-year sentence in Britain for his involvement in the cocaine smuggling racket. Mee had been on the run for



Part of the £100 million drugs haul seized by police

Holland for three years after escaping from a prison van on the way to Manchester Crown Court.

British and Dutch police and customs officers said the convictions vindicated their six-month joint operation, codenamed Crayfish, that led to the arrest of the gang last October and the seizure of

317 kilograms of cocaine and quantities of other drugs with a combined street value of £100 million.

"An entire drugs gang has been destroyed," Paul Acton, deputy chief of Customs and Excise, said. "Warren was a unique trafficker in British terms, because he had direct contact with the sources of

the drugs. It will be a long time before anybody takes his place."

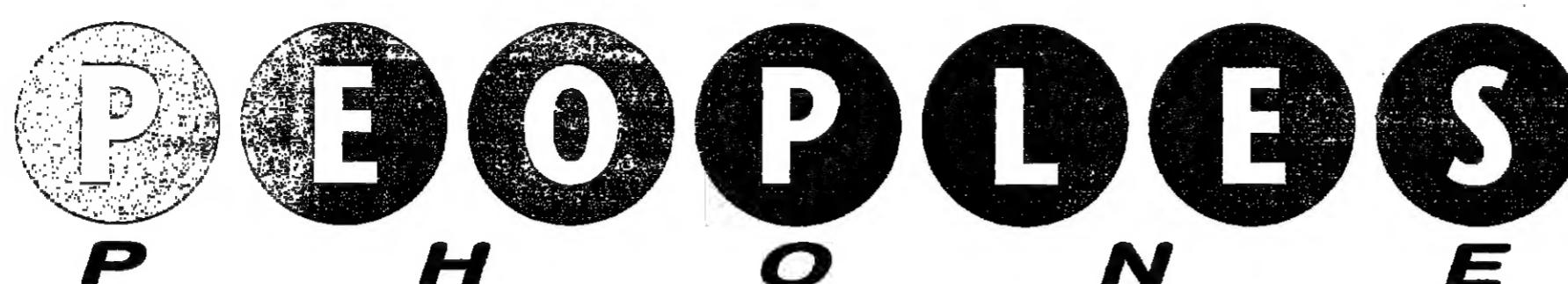
The squad which led Operation Crayfish was launched a few months after Warren was acquitted of being part of a £155 million cocaine ring. Customs officers were keeping watch on a cargo of 200kg of heroin on board a Turkish lorry driven up to Liverpool. The surveillance team saw Warren drive into the lorry park, reconnoitre the area and then disappear. He was clearly back in business after his acquittal.

The judge rejected defence claims that the evidence had been obtained largely by British telephone taps which would be deemed illegal in The Netherlands. Judge Holtrop said there was some lack of clarity and conflict in the accounts given to the court, but not of a nature that would undermine the prosecution case.

Two other members of the gang, William Fitzgerald, 55, and Ray Nolan, 28, were each jailed for three years last month.



Curtis Warren: masterminded international drugs ring



Britain's Biggest Specialist

Free hands-free kit

TOP BRAND DIGITAL PHONE

- Nokia 1611
- Ericsson GA318

FREE HANDSFREE

- keep both hands on the steering wheel

FREE CALLS EVERY MONTH

- 15 minutes per month - forever
- best coverage with **VODAFONE**
- per second billing

ONLY £19.99 INC VAT EACH

180 stores nationwide

to place an order or for your nearest store

call free 0800 10 11 12

Offer is subject to status, availability and connection to a Vodafone GSM tariff at £35.00 inc VAT on a new number to a new standard airtime contract.

Offer is not available in conjunction with any other offers. Offer ends 30th June 1997.

How small-time crook rose to become Mr Big

By STEWART TENDLER AND RUSSELL JENKINS

EIGHT years ago, Curtis Warren was a typical Liverpool "scally" - a minor villain from Toxteth, stealing cars and mugging. As his fortunes rose, he never gave up his street uniform of shell suit and mobile telephone.

When the drug trade began to expand in the 1980s he was befriended by a Liverpool drugs godfather with international links, who helped the streetwise Warren to develop his own trade. Then he met a Dutchman involved in multi-million-pound cocaine cargoes who was close to the Colombian drug barons. Warren achieved access in South America for himself and his emissaries. He also learnt to deal directly with Turkish heroin producers and cannabis suppliers in Spain.

In 1993, at Newcastle Crown Court, he was acquitted of taking part in a £155 million cocaine ring. As he left the dock, he told Customs officers he was off to spend £85 million he had tucked away.

As he built up his wealth, he moved to a flat in Liverpool's Albert Dock development with his long-term girlfriend Stephanie, daughter of a Liverpool businessman. He also acquired a country home, the Coach House, at Hoylake on the Wirral, and started taking helicopter lessons.

He turned Liverpool into the hub of the British drugs trade, and was so powerful he could stop supplies to anyone who crossed him. He liked to drive the inner-city streets in an open-top Toyota Lexus and

benefits claimants.

After warfare broke out between two of the Liverpool street clans three years ago, Warren fled to The Netherlands. He believed he might be able to broker a peace on the Merseyside streets from the safety of his new home.

Aware that police and Customs were interested in him, he also thought he was safe there.

When he was finally arrested at his 16-room flat in Sassenheim, after an investigation by Dutch police, he was shifting 500 kilograms of drugs a month. He was also busy moving into eastern Europe. Investigators found he was negotiating to buy a Bulgarian winery which Customs officers believe would have been used to store consignments of cocaine.



One of 250 properties owned by Curtis Warren

Dog's teethmarks trap owner's killer

By A STAFF REPORTER

A JEALOUS killer has been jailed for life after he was identified by bite marks left by his victim's dog.

Christopher Allen, 26, from Ruchdale, Manchester, went to the home of John Yates, his girlfriend's lover, and stabbed him through the heart with a kitchen knife. The victim's Alsatian, Zac, repeatedly hit Allen's hands and wrists, but was forced to back off when Allen stabbed it in the shoulder and near an eye.

Neighbours heard the dog barking and then yelping in pain outside the house. Shortly afterwards the victim's body was discovered on the doorstep. Allen repeatedly denied being involved in the killing but detectives asked a dental expert to make impressions of the wounded dog's

teeth and they matched the puncture wounds in Allen's hands. At Manchester Crown Court he admitted that he had stabbed Mr Yates but claimed that he acted in self-defence when attacked by the victim and his dog.

He said he had stabbed the dog to fight it off but did not realise Mr Yates had also been stabbed.

A jury took just over four hours to find him guilty of murder. Mr Justice Forbes told him: "You were motivated by a combination of jealousy and a desire for revenge."

"You armed yourself with two knives, sought out your victim and stabbed him to death as he stood before you unarmed. You killed a decent, hard-working young man in the prime of his life."

JPY10126

French leader gives single currency commitment as Germans ease financial crisis

Jospin sets out his stall with pledge to create 700,000 jobs

FROM SUSAN BELL IN PARIS

In his first speech to the National Assembly yesterday, Lionel Jospin, France's new Prime Minister, confirmed his commitment to achieving a single currency on time, but significantly made no mention of meeting the criteria for economic and monetary union.

M Jospin said the euro must go hand-in-hand with economic solidarity to create growth and jobs. Citing his securing of an "employment pact" at the Amsterdam summit this week as the first step, he said that France would continue to push for a more social Europe.

M Jospin set out his Government's programme during an hour-long address which met with a standing ovation from his coalition in the assembly but which denied share prices. The Socialist leader pledged to honour his campaign promises, saying that he would give "absolute priority" to finding 700,000 jobs for young people and confirming his intention to gradually reduce the working week from 39 to 35 hours.

However, M Jospin emphasised that change would take time because of the "serious state" of French finances. A planned mini-budget and a national employment conference would be delayed until September to give the Government time to study an audit of public finances to be completed next month. The audit is expected to confirm preliminary Treasury reports that

France will fail to meet the strict budgetary criteria to join the single currency. The 1997 deficit is expected to exceed the target of 3 per cent of gross domestic product by between 0.4 and 0.8 per cent.

To encourage job creation, M Jospin said France's exceptionally high social charges would be reduced in an effort to shift the burden from employers. A reduction in VAT, which increased under the previous centre-right government, would also be examined. The resulting shortfall would be made up by a rearrangement of other taxes.

M Jospin drew groans of disappointment from the Socialist, Communist and Green benches when he announced that France's minimum wage of Fr 6,406 (£670) per month will be increased by 4 per cent from July 1, an increase of about 250 francs for the 2.2 million employees who draw it, and far less than the Communists and trade unions had demanded. M Jospin reported that given inflation of less than 1 per cent, the rise was the biggest increase in purchasing power for the low-paid in 15 years.

M Jospin kept another key election promise by announcing an important step towards judicial independence — the protection of examining magistrates from government interference. He also pledged to restore the right of citizenship to anyone born in France, a right eroded by the previous Government.



Lionel Jospin delivering his inaugural address as Prime Minister to the National Assembly with a promise to reduce unemployment that won a standing ovation

Fast-breeder to be scrapped

Paris: Lionel Jospin said he would scrap the fault-prone Superphenix nuclear fast-breeder, calling it too costly and of doubtful value.

The move was a victory for Greens leader Dominique Voynet, the Environment Minister, who has denounced the Fr60 billion (£6 billion) plant built 20 years ago near Grenoble as a "stupid financial waste". (Reuters)

Neo-Nazi held in child sex case

BY SUSAN BELL

A NEO-NAZI accused of being a ringleader in the French child pornography scandal appeared before a judge yesterday in Macon, 40 miles north of Lyons.

Bernard Alapetite, 46, was arrested in connection with a massive anti-paedophile operation conducted by French police. He was traced to a photographic studio in the wealthy resort of la Baule in Brittany on Wednesday.

The head of a publishing company based in Paris, he is known to police for his connections with the neo-Nazi movement. He has been involved in the publication of extreme-right magazines.

A mailing list of over 1,000 names discovered at the headquarters of M Alapetite's company enabled police to raid over 800 homes this week in a search for child pornography. So far 668 suspects have been arrested since the crackdown started on Tuesday.



THE CLASSIC BEAUTY OF GARRARD'S UNIQUE 18 CARAT FLEUR-DE-LYS GOLD EARRINGS IS MATCHED BY A PRICE THAT'S EQUALLY ATTRACTIVE, £575. PART OF A RANGE OF EXQUISITE NEW COLLECTIONS FROM GARRARD, OUR GOLD EARRINGS START FROM AS LITTLE AS £150. AND WHEN YOU SEE THEM, YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR EYES EITHER.

GARRARD
THE CROWN JEWELLERS
112 Regent Street, London, W1A 2JU Tel: 0171 734 7020

Bundesbank throws Kohl a line to reach euro target

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE German Government yesterday won the agreement of the Bundesbank to revalue the country's dollar reserves and use some of the profits to wriggle out of the current financial crisis.

Burned by the recent row over revaluing gold, both Theo Waigel, the Finance Minister, and Hans Tietmeyer, the Bundesbank President, were reluctant to disclose details of their understanding. They merely said that they had reached a good and acceptable solution. The critical outstanding question is how much of the profit from revaluing the reserves can be transferred to Bonn, and when such a transfer should happen — this year or next.

Only when these details are disclosed in full — probably after a session of the Bundesbank council — will it be clear if the dollar move can help Bonn to meet the Maastricht fiscal targets for economic and monetary union.

The underpinning of the deal is that the Bundesbank's huge currency reserves are very undervalued, fixed at 1.36 marks to the dollar. A revaluation would have been necessary anyway as the various central banks prepared to give up powers, and part of their reserves, to the new European Central Bank.

There is no question of revaluing the rate to more than 1.7 marks to the dollar,

but the central bankers seem ready to accept a rate of around 1.5 marks. That would bring a book profit of up to 15 billion marks (£5.3 billion), a chunk of which could be used by the Government.

The money would not, however, go directly towards plugging the budget gap, but would be used to pay off debt incurred by financial transfers to eastern Germany. If that can be achieved this year, the euro targets could be within reach. At the moment Germany seems set to overshoot both the total debts target of 60 per cent of gross domestic product and the public deficit goal of 3 per cent.

The contours of the deal are similar to those proposed for the gold reserves by Herr Waigel. That unleashed a storm of international criticism that Germany, previously regarded as the fiscal schoolmaster of Europe, was ready to fiddle the books in order to start the euro up on time. When the Bundesbank showed firm resistance, the Government backed down. The gold will indeed be revalued but probably not until 1999.

The difference between revaluing the dollars and the gold is that gold reserves are protected under the Bundesbank law. The Government would probably not have been able to push an amended Bundesbank law through the

upper house of parliament, which is dominated by Social Democrats.

Gold reserves have a potent and almost mythical sway over the imagination of Germans, who have desperately feared inflation since the 1920s. The dollar reserves do not have the same political force, nor is their value protected by the Bundesbank law.

The coalition seems to be recovering its confidence. Even Herr Tietmeyer, in comments reported by the *Handelsblatt* business daily, seemed to suggest the 3 per cent public deficit target was not necessarily the most crucial factor. He said that in assessing the suitability of EMU candidates, the Frankfurt-based European Monetary Institute will be looking closely at a number of factors influencing future budgetary discipline, including the demography of each state.

Karl Heinrich Oppenländer, president of the influential IFO economic institute, deplored the recent clash between Bonn and the Bundesbank about revaluing gold reserves.

"The confidence of financial markets in the sustainability of budget consolidation has declined considerably as a result," he said. "Short-term measures to meet Maastricht targets at any price can destroy trust more than they can encourage it."

LATE NIGHT SHOPPING MONDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY 10-8

SALE ENDS 10 DAYS
LAST ENDS 5PM SUN 29TH JUNE



THIS INTEGRATED DISHWASHER UNDER HALF PRICE £199.99

APL2214/24
Was £242.99 SALE PRICE £209.99
OR
£200 OFF
ANY INTEGRATED DISHWASHER FROM OUR RANGE

*When you spend £200 or more on any AEG or Schreiber kitchen, other than an integrated dishwasher. Not combinable with any other offer. Offer valid to 29 June 1997. Excludes AEG 60cm Cooker Hood AEG2115/25. Was £299.99. PACKAGE (AXA311/2) PRICE Was £499.99
SALE PRICE £399.99
Moores/White

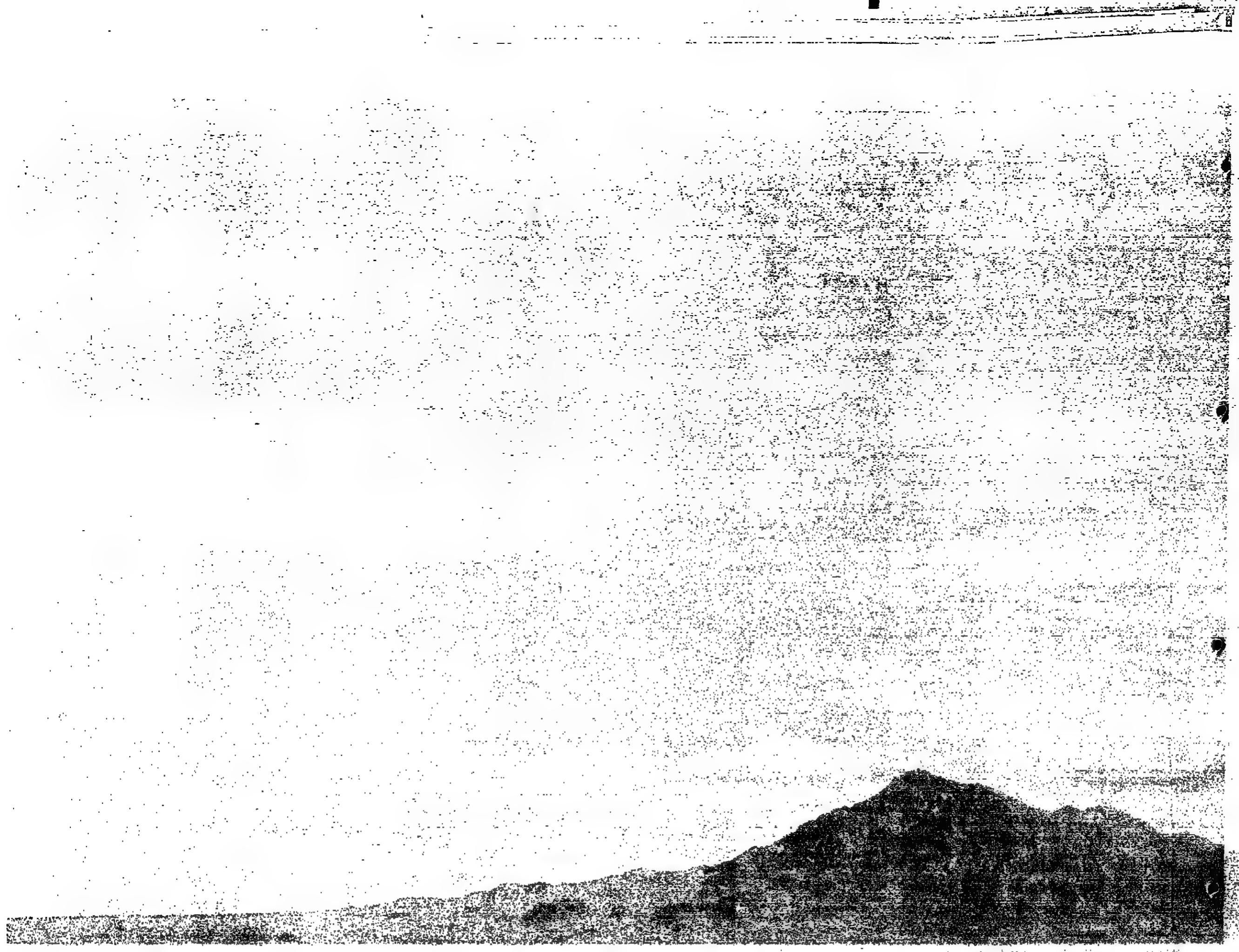
AEG ELECTRIC SINGLE OVEN PACKAGE

AEG Electric Single Oven AEG3311/21 £349.99
Was £399.99
AEG Gas Hob AEG1119/28 £134.99
Was £159.99
AEG 60cm Cooker Hood AEG2115/25 £64.99
Was £99.99
PACKAGE (AXA311/2) PRICE Was £499.99
SALE PRICE £399.99

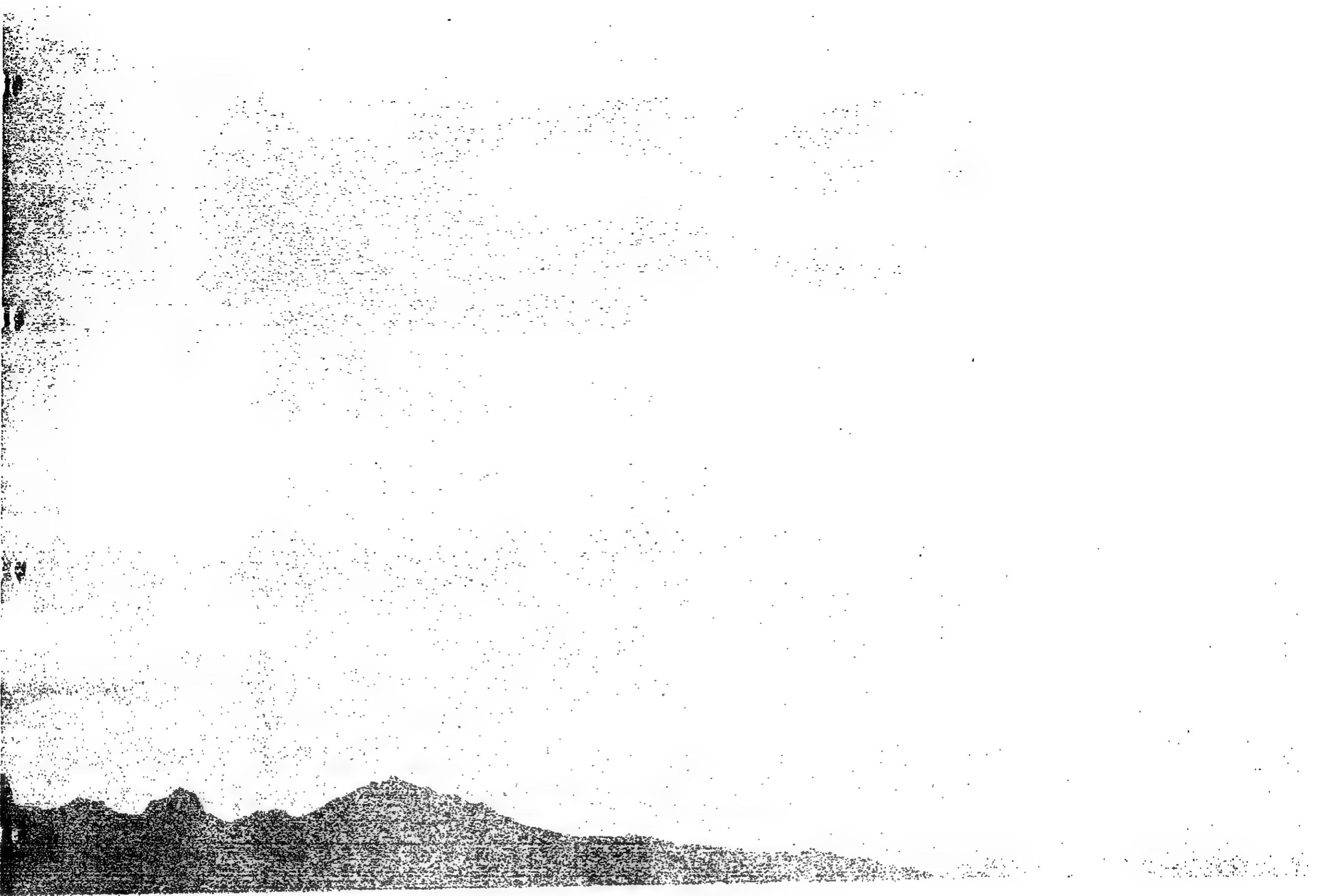
LOW COST INSTALLATION AVAILABLE
SEE IN-STORE FOR FULL DETAILS

MFI

MFI home works



هذا من الأصل



THE MONTEREY FROM VAUXHALL
An off-roader with all the comforts of home.



Consul
for Hong
Kong is
appointing

in disarray
in team' quit

y get
ngage
ection from
r lenders.
you can get 15%
with Municipal?

SURANCE
O 147 147

1300 hrs, Bonneville Salt Flats (off Interstate Highway 80), Utah.

It's so flat on this huge
dazzling
plain,

you can see the curvature of the Earth.

Salt crunches

under the tyres and

lingers in the

air,

reminding you of one of those hot days at the seaside.

But that's where
the cosy comparisons end.

Despite its beauty,
this is in every
respect a barren,
inhospitable
place.

You're miles from
the nearest highway.
Light years from
civilization.

In a land where the long red line of the thermometer constantly hits
treble figures.

In an environment
where neither
animal or
plant life can survive.

And it suddenly makes you feel
grateful for the comforts the
Monterey can provide.

After all, it's about
as far from being
a basic 4-wheel drive,
as you are from the

nearest
town right now.
Having the sort
of luxuries that
make driving an
enjoyable,
rather than merely
a bearable
experience.

Like air
conditioning,
which keeps you
at a thoroughly
civilized
65 degrees.

Like comfortable
leather seats with
folding armrests.

Like a roomy, walnut
trimmed interior,
with space to stretch out in every direction.

And a CD player capable
of holding up
to six of your
favourite albums.

There's even a

V6
engine with
a greedy appetite for
those endless
miles of tarmac,
mud and rock.

So whatever the distance, the Monterey will leave you refreshed enough to
just sit back and
enjoy the surroundings.

Why, if it wasn't for the blinding sun,
and acres of desert,
you could almost
be at home in your
own living room.



THE MONTEREY FROM VAUXHALL An off-roader with all the comforts of home.

Animal rights groups angered by Tokyo's failure to heed warnings

Japan condemned for slow death of two killer whales

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

ANIMAL rights activists yesterday accused the Japanese Government of a brutal disregard for wildlife after the slow deaths of two orcas, or killer whales, in captivity.

The deaths of the whales, after a five-month campaign for their release, is expected to provoke an angry response from animal protection groups around the world. Environmentalists had repeatedly warned Japan that orcas are unsuited to theme parks, and that records of orcas kept in captivity show they quickly deteriorate and survive for only a fraction of their normal lifespan.

"I'm sad and filled with anger, but this is exactly what we thought would happen sooner or later," said Yukari Tsuruki, spokeswoman of the Dolphin and Whale Action Network in Tokyo, which first alerted the world to their plight.

The furor began when Japanese fishermen, scented profit, captured ten killer whales in February near the whaling village of Taiji in central Japan. Half were released, but five were sold for the equivalent of £162,000 each to three marine parks

which saw the orcas — extinct in Japan and seldom found as transients in Japanese waters — as a money-spinning attraction.

Catching killer whales is banned under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites), but Japan's Fisheries Agency allowed the whales to be kept "for breeding and research purposes". Animal rights groups said this was simply a pretext to sanction a business deal, and that the real purpose was to train the whales for public performances.

International condemnation came swiftly. Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto's office was inundated with thousands of faxes, including one from the Brigitte Bardot Foundation, protesting at Japan's violation of international law.

But the Government took no action, and the five orcas languished in their theme parks — three in the Adventure World in Wakayama, one in the Sea Paradise in Izu, and one in the Taiji Town Whale Museum.

Earlier this month Dr Paul Spong, a whale expert from Canada, visited the parks and found several of the orcas

close to starvation — their blowholes had sunk in as fatty tissue disappeared — and being force-fed by their keepers.

"The orcas went on hunger strike — they lost the will to live," Dr Spong said. "There were no vets who knew anything about whales."

The Dolphin and Whale Action Network said yesterday that the youngest of the five, a two- or three-year-old male, died on Saturday. A female reported to be pregnant when captured and which may have miscarried in April died on Tuesday. Local fisheries officials confirmed that two orcas died at the Whakayama theme park.

The aquarium tied her with ropes and forced her mouth open to push in frozen fish, but she just refused to eat, and became weaker and weaker," said Ms Tsuruki of the death of the female. In the wild, seals and sea-lions form staples of the orca's diet.

Animal rights groups have called on the aquarium and the Government to provide details of how the orcas died, but they fear it may already be too late to save the surviving three.



A killer whale at a Newport, Oregon aquarium. Captive orcas deteriorate rapidly, with a dramatically reduced lifespan

Mandela 'to cut arms budget'

FROM SAM KILEY IN JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH AFRICA'S arms industry, which flourished despite an embargo during the apartheid era, faces cuts that could cost 50,000 jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars in export earnings.

According to sources in the industry sources and Ministry of Defence, President Mandela's Cabinet will soon consider proposals to cut £100 million from the £13 billion defence allocation, and cancel orders for locally developed helicopter gunships and air-to-air missiles.



Mandela: move could solve diplomatic row

The move would free cash for housing and education, but industry sources feared job losses.

The first contract to be cancelled is likely to be an order for a squadron of Rooivalk (Redhawk) helicopters which the British Army recently considered buying.

The cuts could, however, solve the diplomatic row with America and Israel over government plans to sell Syria a computerised tank-aiming mechanism developed with Israeli help.

Israeli coalition rebels want early poll

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL was plunged into a new political crisis yesterday after the resignation of Dan Meridor, the popular Israeli Finance Minister, triggered calls from within the ruling coalition for early elections and a revolt against Benjamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, grew inside his Likud Party.

The two biggest selling Tel Aviv newspapers devoted between them 23 pages to the upheaval and Moshe Katsav, the Deputy Prime Minister, told Israel radio: "Today the

situation is that anyone leaving, or any shake-up in a party that is a partner in the coalition, could lead to the fall of the Government."

The test of Mr Netanyahu's 66-54 parliamentary majority will come next Tuesday when the left-wing Opposition has tabled a no-confidence motion and a separate motion to dissolve the Knesset. Ehud Barak, the Labour leader who is not yet a month in his post, said that the prospects of success were now "much more than wishful thinking".

Despite his brave face, there were signs that by provoking the exit of Mr Meridor, a Likud rival noted for his personal integrity, the Prime Minister may have triggered worsening domestic political strife at the very moment when the Middle East peace process is also in crisis.

Inside Likud, David Reem, a backbencher, said he would be launching a campaign next week for a new leader. Senior figures such as Yitzhak Shamir, the former Likud Prime Minister, have voiced support for such a move. Mr Meridor has hinted that he may be absent from the confidence vote.

Opposition legislators told journalists on Wednesday there would be no budget speech without reforms of repressive colonial-era regulations. They say the Government uses the old laws to stop them from holding public meetings and to detain people without charge.

UN accused: The United Nations Development Agency ignored or played down abuses by the Kenyan Government against many of the 300,000 people displaced by ethnic violence before the 1992 elections, the London-based Human Rights Watch/Africa reported. (Reuters)

ook Offer
/ 0%
2 OFF
CRUISES
SUMMER
1998
74+

FROM THE BEST-SELLING AUTHOR OF "THE FIRM" "THE CLIENT" & "A TIME TO KILL"
CHRIS O'DONNELL GENE HACKMAN

Mississippi Crime
KILLER TO DIE?
Prominent
Socialite
Daughter
of Race
Bomb

CHAMBER

IMAGINE

PLUS
HOLIDAY OF EASY
AND SAVE
ON YOUR HOLIDAY

STARTS TODAY
AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY

UNITED INTERNATIONAL PICTURES

THE DIRECT LINE SAVINGS CHALLENGE

Question:
Can you beat your building society match savings rates?

Answer:
Call Direct Line below.

	£1- £4,999	£5,000- £9,999	£10,000- £24,999	£25,000- £49,999	£50,000- £99,999	£100,000+
Direct Line Instant Access Account	4.75%	5.25%	5.85%	6.00%	6.25%	6.35%
Halifax Solid Gold (30 Day Notice)	3.25% [†]	3.50%	4.25%	4.70%	4.75%	4.75%
Woolwich Premier 90 (90 Day Notice)	N/A	4.00%	4.50%	5.10%	5.40%	6.20% [†]
Nationwide Capitalbuilder 90 Day	4.20% [†]	4.50%	4.80%	5.10%	5.40%	5.40%
TSB 60 Day (60 Day Notice)	3.25% [†]	3.50%	4.55%	5.00%	5.25%	5.25%

All rates are gross*, based on annual payment of interest and correct at 9th June 1997. Source: Moneyfacts.
[†]Rate effective from £500. [‡]Rate effective from £200,000.

- As the table shows, the answer seems to be 'no, they can't match our rates'.
- And with Direct Line you get instant access to your money too.
- The more savings you have the higher our rates get.
- You can pool your savings with family or friends for even higher returns.
- Call Direct Line, you'll find we're more than a match for the banks and building societies.



0181 667 1121

LONDON

0161 833 1121

MANCHESTER

0141 221 1121

GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday. Please quote ref. TT90
www.directline.co.uk • ITV Teletext page 377.

A Royal Bank of Scotland company.

Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.75% for £1-£4,999, 5.25% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.85% for £10,000-£24,999, 6.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.35% for £100,000+. *Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.25% for £10,000-£24,999, 4.70% for £25,000-£49,999, 4.75% for £50,000-£99,999, 4.75% for £100,000+. **Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.00% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.10% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.40% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.20% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.20% for £100,000+. ***Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.20% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.80% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.10% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.40% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.40% for £100,000+. ****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.55% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.25% for £100,000+. *Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.75% for £1-£4,999, 5.25% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.85% for £10,000-£24,999, 6.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.35% for £100,000+. **Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.25% for £10,000-£24,999, 4.70% for £25,000-£49,999, 4.75% for £50,000-£99,999, 4.75% for £100,000+. ***Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.00% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.10% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.40% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.20% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.20% for £100,000+. ****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.20% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.80% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.10% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.40% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.40% for £100,000+. *****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.55% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.25% for £100,000+. *Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.75% for £1-£4,999, 5.25% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.85% for £10,000-£24,999, 6.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.35% for £100,000+. **Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.25% for £10,000-£24,999, 4.70% for £25,000-£49,999, 4.75% for £50,000-£99,999, 4.75% for £100,000+. ***Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.00% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.10% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.40% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.20% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.20% for £100,000+. ****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.20% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.80% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.10% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.40% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.40% for £100,000+. *****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.55% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.25% for £100,000+. *Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.75% for £1-£4,999, 5.25% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.85% for £10,000-£24,999, 6.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.35% for £100,000+. **Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.25% for £10,000-£24,999, 4.70% for £25,000-£49,999, 4.75% for £50,000-£99,999, 4.75% for £100,000+. ***Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.00% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.10% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.40% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.20% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.20% for £100,000+. ****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.20% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.80% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.10% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.40% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.40% for £100,000+. *****Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.55% for £10,000-£24,999, 5.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 5.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 5.25% for £100,000+. *Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.75% for £1-£4,999, 5.25% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.85% for £10,000-£24,999, 6.00% for £25,000-£49,999, 6.25% for £50,000-£99,999, 6.35% for £100,000+. **Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 3.25% for £1-£4,999, 3.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 4.25% for £10,000-£24,999, 4.70% for £25,000-£49,999, 4.75% for £50,000-£99,999, 4.75% for £100,000+. ***Interest is paid monthly. Minimum balance £100.00. Interest rate 4.00% for £1-£4,999, 4.50% for £5,000-£9,999, 5.10% for £10,0



Troubled waters: a poacher lands an illegally caught sturgeon. An entire economy has grown up consisting of thousands of people involved in poaching, smuggling and selling caviare

Rise of the caviare mafia

Edik dipped his hands into the grey-green waters of the Volga, carefully working his way along a string of large and vicious-looking hooks until he spied his prey emerging from the depths of the riverbed.

Checking to make sure that no police patrol was approaching, the poacher clasped the giant, prehistoric fish in both hands and heaved its beautiful black and white-speckled body into his rowing boat.

The fish, a 4ft sevruga sturgeon with a long, upturned nose and elegant whiskers, thrashed around in the bottom of the boat as Edik rowed quickly to the riverbank where his wife was waiting to hide the evidence and remove

the precious caviare. "The police were here yesterday, but unless they catch me with the fish, there is nothing they can do," says the unemployed former student, who lives in an abandoned holiday camp just north of Astrakhan, above the vast Volga delta. That morning he caught two fish, landing about 5kg of fertilised fish eggs.

Fresh from the sturgeon, the grey caviare has a taste unlike any other. Fresh, creamy and clean on the palate, it is easy to understand why the delicacy is in huge demand and why poachers risk stiff fines and imprisonment to obtain it. The poacher can expect to sell his day's haul for £30 a kilogram — more than a month's salary for most of Astrakhan's citizens. By the time the caviare has reached Moscow, the price will have doubled to £60. In London, the same quantity of sevruga sells for £600, the cheapest of various caviaries on the market.

In the chaos of post-communist Russia, warnings by environmentalists that the sturgeon could face extinction by overfishing have gone largely unheeded because an entire economy has grown up consisting of thousands of people involved in poaching, smuggling and selling caviare.

"Ten years ago our nets were full of sturgeon," says Sasha Baikulyanov, a veteran fisherman at a state fish farm, looking at his morning's catch with disgust. "Now I would not even qualify what we do here as fishing. We are lucky if we land three or four sturgeon. They are being killed off by man's greed and the mafia."

His dim prognosis is shared by the World Wide Fund for Nature, which claims that the number of adult fish in the Caspian has fallen from 142 million in 1978 to 40 million today. Unless measures are taken to protect the sea's sturgeon, it predicts that they could be extinct in 20 years.

The species has lived largely unaltered in these waters for 250 million years and has been farmed for its caviare since antiquity; when the delicacy was exiled by Herodotus and Aristotle. When the stur-

geon still swam in British waters, Edward II declared a royal fish.

But it will require more than noble ancestry to survive man's onslaught this century. Stalin was the first to disturb the sturgeon's migration habitats when he built a series of hydroelectric dams along the Volga, which reduced the water flow and made spawning

industry remains a state monopoly and poachers face harsh treatment by the Islamic authorities. When Russia tried to reimpose its authority, the mafia turned out to be stronger. In one infamous incident last year, 54 Russian border guards and their relatives were killed in a huge bomb attack in the neighbouring Russian republic of Dagestan after the authorities attempted to crack down on the local caviare mafia.

Yekaterina, a caviare smuggler and aspirant mafiosa, says that she travels to Moscow every fortnight with as much as 30kg of caviare, which she sells to everyone from top officials to restaurateurs.

"I know I run a risk every time I travel, but I buy my insurance by paying off officials and the police," she says with a cynical smirk. "When I hear talk about the Duma (parliament) taking action to stop smuggling and poaching, I just laugh. Some of my best clients are deputies."

As a single mother living in an economically depressed region of Russia, she sees nothing wrong with carrying on a trade which was established centuries ago, before the Communists turned the business into a state monopoly.

Most of the people in Astrakhan say that the real threat to the survival of the fish comes from their neighbours, the newly independent republics of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan and Azerbaijan, formerly members of the Soviet Union. Although they share a coastline along the Caspian Sea, sturgeon spawn only in Russia's Volga and Ural rivers. All

other fish caught off the coasts of the new republics and Iran are by their very nature immature. Considering that it takes ten years for a sevruga to mature, and nearly twice as long for the giant beluga, the sturgeon faces a real threat of extermination unless the young fish can be protected to maturity.

We have recently opened a fish hatchery where we can protect the fish for a few years before releasing them into the river," says Vladimir Ivanov, director of the Caspian Fisheries Research Institute. "But the programme will succeed only if the fish are protected while they mature at sea. We can only save the sturgeon if we cooperate with each other."

While the Caspian Sea nations blame each other, the international community is belatedly taking steps to protect the fish. On Wednesday night, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) voted in Harare, Zimbabwe, to place all 27 of the world's species of sturgeon on the protected list. Starting in three months, trade in all five of the Caspian Sea's sturgeon will be regulated, with tougher checks on imports and exports of sturgeon meat and caviare. In particular, it is hoped that the illegal export routes via Turkey and the United Arab Emirates will be closed.

On the banks of the Volga, however, the international action is unlikely to affect the poachers or the smugglers, who have been making their living from the mighty fish for centuries. Some involved in the illegal trade speculate that controls may help to push prices up and make their business even more lucrative.

Why scared men have to tell fat lies

There's only one answer to a tricky question, says Dave Wilson

A lively debate has started about how to answer a crucial question. It is a question women ask their men, and a wrongly judged reply can lead to a fight.

The question is: "Do you think this makes me look fat?"

Nineties Man is stumped, unsure whether this is a challenge to his fashion sense, or if something more personal is being addressed.

The question is often disguised in other versions: "Do you think this is the right shape for me?" Sometimes it is not phrased as a question at all. "Oh, I've put on so much weight," Silence. Or even: "It takes me so much longer to get ready these days." An answer is still required. There seem to be three basic options.

The first was identified recently by Men's Health magazine, which usually urges its readers to face all life's challenges head-on. In this case, it simply recommended lying. Concluding that many questions asked by modern women ultimately mean "Do I look fat?", it said that in every case the answer should be "No".

The opposing viewpoint was made in a reader's letter in the June edition. John Mountney of Sheffield wrote: "One should reply 'Yes' if she does and 'No' if she doesn't... If, however, after you express your honest opinion, she goes there-muckere on you and things get out of hand, well, who wants to date a fat chick anyway?"

Most men say that they seek a middle way, trying to escape the subject: "Mmm, not really." "I hadn't noticed — by the way, have you seen my other sock?" "Darling, I plan to love you when you are old and grey, so a few extra pounds wouldn't matter."

However, it may all be too late to settle the great debate. Weight obsession is now spreading widely among men. The June issue of Men's Health also offered a "last-chance workout" for its readers to look well-defined and handsome on the beach. Flabbiest were urged to "define your muscles".

Goodbye, carefree summers. Now, at least, both sexes can grow insecure together. As it happens, I am one of those people who can eat almost anything without putting on an ounce. But I was wondering: do you think this means I might look er, skinny?

Amended Index Linked Account Rates

Effective from 23rd June 1997. Account no longer open to new investors.

	Index Linked Account		
	Minimum Investment	Gross*	Gross CAR+/- Net†
1st Issue Quarterly	£1,000	5.60%	5.72% 4.48%
2nd Issue Yearly	£1,000	5.60%	- 4.48%
2nd Issue Monthly	£1,000	5.48%	5.60% 4.37%
3rd Issue Yearly	£1,000	5.60%	- 4.48%
3rd Issue Monthly	£1,000	5.46%	5.50% 4.37%
4th Issue Yearly	£1,000	5.10%	- 4.08%
4th Issue Monthly	£1,000	4.98%	5.10% 3.98%

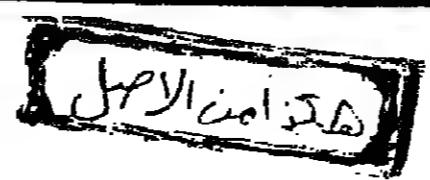
*Annual UK income tax deducted. *Annual return of 4% would increase the rate of interest on the account. Accruing rate of income tax at 20% interest will be payable on the applicable rate of income tax which may be reckoned by non-taxpayers or gross, subject to the relevant tax rates. Rates are illustrative only and have been rounded to two decimal places. Rates may vary due to changes in taxation or going to press. Details of interest rates paid on other accounts are available from any Britannia branch.

Britannia
The Sherriff Society
Britannia Building Society
Britannia House, Leek
Staffordshire ST11 9SD

NOT ONLY DO DAEWOO GIVE YOU 3 YEARS/60,000 MILES FREE SERVICING...

...and also: 3 years free comprehensive insurance, subject to status, 3 year/60,000 mile comprehensive warranty, 3 year Daewoo Total AA Cover and a 6 year anti-corrosion warranty. Daewoo prices range from £9,445 to £13,735 for the 3, 4 and 5 door Nexia and Espero saloon. Call 0800 666 222.

MORE FOR YOUR MONEY AS STANDARD? THAT'LL BE THE DAEWOO.



'There's no money in stability'



THE VALERIE GROVE INTERVIEW

A Conran-style capitalist with a deep love of China, entrepreneur David Tang strides the two cultures of Hong Kong

I see I am described in *The Times* this morning as 'portly,' says David Tang. *The Times Diary* reported an unseemly scuffle between paparazzi and Princess Caroline of Monaco's boyfriend outside the party Michael Caine gave on Tuesday for "the portly entrepreneur David Tang".

For breakfast yesterday—at the Berkeley, where he could order healthy sushi—he had exchanged his Western garb for his trademark black silk mandarin tunic under which his shape is not portly but indecipherable. The "Tang suit", often described as pyjamas, is the most comfortable garb to fly in, and he was flying to Beijing last night. Effortlessly straddling Eastern and Western cultures, he says it is "a statement and a demonstration" to wear Chinese clothes.

On June 30 he will be in Hong Kong for all the ceremonies from beating the retreat, through Chris Paten's last supper, to the Chinese celebrations. He has already marketed the commemorative umbrellas, black with orange trim, emblazoned with "The Great Hangover".

Nobody more engagingly personifies the handing over than this Conran-style capitalist who owns the China Club, Hong Kong's social hub, and its smartest emporium, Shanghai Tang, where his products bear the label "Made by Chinese" to distinguish them from things like my 99p "Made in China" notebook.

We were interrupted only five times by his tiny mobile phone into which he spoke in Cantonese ("I'm trying to do a deal") and which vibrated in the pocket instead of trilling. But at the China Club in Hong Kong, the ringing mobile phone is de rigueur. We don't want rules which make people uncomfortable."

He was 13 and spoke no English when he sailed here with his family in 1967. It was the year of the Hong Kong riots and his father, whose father had founded the Kowloon Bus Company, decided to



David Tang is addicted to cigars. In the 1980s he charmed the Cubans into letting him distribute Havanas throughout the Pacific Rim: "The biggest article ever written about me is in the current issue of *Cigar Aficionado*"

settle in Hawkhurst, Kent. David grew up a rampant Anglophile with a fondness for country houses, Lobb shoes, English poetry, horses. He would work in summer at his father's trainer's stables, riding with the girls of Benenden School. "I fell in love with the first English girl I saw with horses. I always associate the smell of horses, stables, the English summer, with this romantic memory. That's why I have to go to Ascot: my father loved racing, and I love the continuity."

His day at Ascot on Tuesday sounds terrible. His driver missed a turning and when Tang remonstrated, stopped the car on the A4 and marched off. "Left me high and dry." So he took the wheel himself. "The cooler light was flashing, and I had to stop at a garage. Then one of my guests did not have a Royal Enclosure badge. He had to barter a ticket from a tout (who wanted £80 but got £50) and to tip the car park attendant £20 to get near the grandstand. "Now all this is bad feng shui for gambling. But I bet on every race and lost about £1,500."

He was 13 and spoke no English when he sailed here with his family in 1967. It was the year of the Hong Kong riots and his father, whose father had founded the Kowloon Bus Company, decided to

said happily. "It's not really gambling if you only lose what you can afford to lose."

If he has a motto in life it is not a Confucian *aperçu* but Hilaire Belloc's:

*There's nothing worth the wear of winning
but laughter, and the love of friends.*

"I sent it to Jimmy Goldsmith last week, with my warmest laughter and my warmest love." He waxes lyrical about Jimmy: "He loves life so much. Generous, well-mannered, always standing on the steps of his house waiting for you, arms outstretched. Those amazing eyes like laser beams... and so on like this for several minutes.

You may judge his love of friends by the picnic he hosted in September, on the Great Wall of China, to celebrate the opening of his China Club in Beijing, with finest crystal and claret and napery. *à la carte* that included the Duchess of York, the Weinbergs, Kevin Costner, Sir Jocelyn Stevens, Muck Flick, Mark Birley, Winston Churchill. But he

does also have non-famous friends to whom he is just as generous and loyal.

He is also a law graduate and former philosophy teacher. In didactic mode he gave me a long lecture on the history of Western influences on Chinese civilisation since the reign of George III culminating in Mao Tsetung—here an angry parenthesis about Marx: "Typical typical of someone like Marx, that supposedly great thinker, pontificating about the virtues of the proletariat and then taking advantage of his maid-servant..." — and Deng Xiaoping.

I said I would never have space to record his thesis in my short article. "The biggest article ever written about me," he said, "is in the current issue of *Cigar Aficionado*." He is addicted to his cigars: in the 1980s he charmed the Cubans into letting him distribute Havana cigars throughout the Pacific Rim. Now he says the only civilised places left for the smoker are the Third World and France: at the Cannes Film Festival all the stars were puffing merrily away.

He has a missionary zeal about reviving Chinese culture, challenging fellow entrepreneurs to do as he does.

"Traditional Chinese values can only mean Confucian values. How do you square the one-child policy with the Confucian principle that looks to the family unit as fundamental to society?"

"If people want to go back to their roots, I say wonderful—but do something about it!"

Start by wearing Chinese clothes! Chinese people tell me, I look so ridiculous, I say 'Look at you with your Versace underpants and Gucci shirt. The only thing Chinese about you is your yellow skin'.

"Instead of courtyards and alleyways we now have French boulevards,

American high-rises, junk food, Pizza Hut, McDonald's, brand-name jeans, T-shirts, Versace, Prada. There are no Chinese composers, only instrumentalists playing Western music.

"Confucian culture is never taught at school nowadays. Our poetry is completely lost. We used to write the most beautiful poetry in the world." Once a month he hosts poetry classes at the China Club where everyone writes a couplet or a sonnet on the subject he sets: last time it was the smoothness of skin.

"Only last night I read a beautiful Chinese poem about a man who falls in love with a woman and sends her two pearls. She sends them back with a letter saying 'I am a married woman, I cannot

accept them, but if you look at them you will see two tiny pearls linked to yours. These are my tears for you.'

His former wife, mother of his children Victoria and Edward, now occupies his Eaton Square duplex; as well as his English-style country house in Hong Kong, he has half a house in Chelsea with his fiancée Lucy Wastnage, whom he met eight years ago when she worked at Asprey's, and both went to dinner with the Heseltines at Harry's Bar. He describes her as "very lovable, very contented". Contented with what the large amounts she has, he chorused.

He feels completely sanguine about June 30. "People ask, are you nervous? The biggest problem will be second-guessing what the Chinese leadership wants. But I am an optimist: how else would one live?"

"Hong Kong is my home. I live there, I wish it well. All Hong Kong businessmen have accepted the transfer of sovereignty as a fait accompli, and have acted accordingly. I'm a risky person by nature, it's so dull not to be. The Americans are obsessed with 'the risk factor'. But the higher the risk, the higher the reward. I'd tell anyone to put money into Hong Kong property now. The second biggest investor in Hong Kong is the mainland Chinese, and there is no way they are going to allow Hong Kong to perform any worse in the next five

years than in the last five years of colonial rule, especially under someone they hated called Chris Patten. I am a great fan of his, an honourable man and a Catholic like me. But my machiavellian theory is that the Chinese were delighted with Chris because he gave them an excuse to do what they wanted."

He reminds us that the prosperity of Hong Kong came about in the past two decades

because of a strong economy underpinned by an amazing property market at a time of huge volatility. "You don't make money out of stability. Remember Harry Lime in *The Third Man* and his comparison of Rome and Switzerland: 'Five hundred years of democracy and peace and what have they produced? The cuckoo clock.' Hong Kong is not Switzerland, it is Rome. It has always lived on borrowed time."

New Rates from the Bristol & West.

INSTANT ACCESS POSTAL DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

EFFECTIVE FROM TUESDAY 1ST JULY 1997

ACCOUNT	AMOUNT INVESTED	GROSS% PA	T NET% PA
INSTANT ACCESS POSTAL DEPOSIT	£25,000+	6.55%	5.24%
ACCOUNT ISSUES 1 & 2.	£10,000+	6.55%	5.24%
	£5,000+	5.65%	4.52%
INSTANT ACCESS POSTAL DEPOSIT ACCOUNT MONTHLY INCOME ISSUE 1.	£25,000+	6.38%	5.09%
	£10,000+	6.36%	5.09%

For an Application Pack telephone free
0800 901 109
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK. QUOTE REF: T2006.

BRISTOL & WEST
BUILDING SOCIETY

*Gross rates of interest are quoted and net rates account of deduction of income tax. If you are not entitled to deduct income tax from your investment, the net rate will be lower. Post Office Current T2006, PO Box 156, Bristol BS99 1BT. Interest rates shown as net are based on rates from the Building Societies Association and the Building Societies Association of the Building Societies Committee, Building Society and Institutions to the Care of Banking Prince, Bristol & West Building Society, PO Box 156, Broad Quay, Bristol BS1 5UZ

KENYA - MOMBASA & SAFARI

Join the safari trail with Somak, the U.K.'s leading East Africa specialist.

Guaranteed lowest prices - check our prices before you book!

* Guaranteed window seat on safari.

* A choice of 19 coastal hotels.

Scheduled flights from Gatwick & Heathrow to Nairobi. Charter flights from Cardiff & Manchester to Nairobi.

For unbeatable value ask your Travel Agent to contact Somak Holidays

0181 423 3000

take out our car insurance,
save £15*

0800 11 22 33 help

...BUT WE ALSO GIVE YOU £500 OF FUEL VOUCHERS.

As part of our 30th anniversary celebrations, every private customer purchasing a new Daewoo can choose one of these offers. (Written details for all offers available on request.) Call 0800 666 222.

•SALE 1.) £500 worth of fuel vouchers.

•SALE 2.) £500 cashback.

•SALE 3.) Choice of up to £750 worth of Daewoo electronic products.

•SALE 4.) £500 towards your deposit with Daewoo Direct Finance. Typical APR 11.2%

30TH ANNIVERSARY SALE OFFERS? THAT'LL BE THE DAEWOO.

Labour needs a genius of the constitution

Reformers may be running out of steam, says John Lloyd

Ambivalent in so much, Labour is profoundly ambivalent about the British constitution. As a palimpsest — of old Labour attitudes, Thatcherism, business school precepts, communarian and religious morality all delicately layered with a residual Marxist revisionism — the Government is toggled this way and that.

It contains within it those who see new Labour as new in nothing so much as its potential to renovate wholly the grimy, creaking machine of government procedure. It also contains those who see new Labour's genius as its ability to interleave the traditional and the modernising in an exquisite blend which will enhance strengths while slyly away the detritus of corruption and privilege.

The first one might call the simple modernisers. The second are the post-modernisers. The modernisers believe that more transparent and rational systems of parliamentary, electoral and representative procedures are indispensable to a renewal of voters' trust — and participation — in government. The post-modernisers accept part of this, and indeed often use the rhetoric — but wish to ring-fence such large areas as the monarchy, the method of election of MPs and the supremacy of Parliament over laws.

In this relatively plastic period the alarmed conviction is growing in the minds of the constitutional modernisers that their colleagues are working quietly to put barriers and flashing red lights across many of the highways leading to radical reform. Change, they believe, will soon be limited to areas where an irrevocable commitment has been made — as Scots devolution — or where the change can be represented as both modernising and popular — at the ending of the right of hereditary peers to vote on legislation.

Part of the problem is that there is no one Constitutional Czar; no Cabinet minister who carries the constitutional portfolio. Indeed, the minister who carries no portfolio but much weight, Peter Mandelson, has in a review of Vernon Bogdanor's *Power and the People* in *The Sunday Times* drawn a line in the sand on constitutional change — commanding Lords reform and Scots devolution, but "remaining unconvinced" of a system of proportional representation because "there is no greater link between politicians and the public than the link between MP and constituents".

In this he differs from Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, who of all the senior Cabinet ministers has the longest commitment in electoral reform, but whose departmental brief excludes him from day-to-day work on the subject.

Several of Mr Cook's colleagues with less enthusiasm for this part of the project than him, do have a direct interest. Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, is presently meant to be putting together a commission to examine what type of system should replace first past the post. Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, has a general oversight of constitutional matters. Donald Dewar is consumed with Scottish

John Lloyd is associate editor of the New Statesman.

China smiles

THERE will be double celebrations at the Chinese Embassy in Portland Place when we hand Hong Kong back to China at the end of the month. For the first time since diplomatic relations were re-established between Britain and the People's Republic in 1972, embassy staff have been told that they can bring their children from the homeland for a holiday.

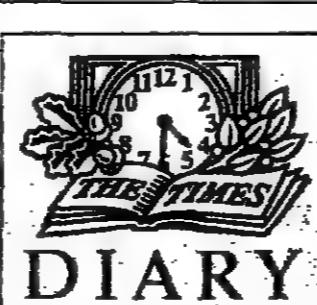
"It is true, yes," confirmed a Chinese diplomat yesterday with a cheery grin, "but it is not con-

New blooms

THE Duchess of Northumberland announced plans recently to spend £5 million on restoring gardens at the Percy family seat, Alnwick Castle. Now, the Hon Simon Howard has summoned the help of Kew Gardens to save a woodland at his family seat in North Yorkshire, Castle Howard. Kew claims the decision means that "the future of one

firm that we can talk about." Staff in the sought-after London posting have suffered years of separation from their families. Couples are often jointly employed in the embassy while any children are left with relatives in China. The parents are usually allowed home leave just once during a three-year stay in London.

While Lord Lloyd-Webber delights in the fact that his show *Cats* is now the longest-running show on Broadway, his wife, Madeleine, is less enthusiastic. Speaking of the triumph in New York, she said: "I would like to have been at Ascot to watch my horse Strangler run in the King's Stand Stakes."



of the North of England's most important collections of plants is to be secured".

The plant collection, famed for its rhododendrons, consists of a 40-acre woodland and a young arboretum of 4,000 plants, many of them rare. "We are delighted to welcome Kew into the North," says Howard of Castle Howard, where the BBC's adaptation of *Brideshead Revisited* was filmed.

In my report over the confusion at Westminster caused by two Labour MPs named Michael J. Foster, I regrettably got them mixed up myself. Michael Foster, MP for Worcester, is the man making news with his anti-hunting Bill, rather than the Michael Foster who represents Hastings and Rye. My apologies to both Fosters who must now be resigning themselves to such mistakes.



What are the Tories for?

William Hague's triumph won't banish the Conservatives' nightmare: that new Labour has just made them redundant

Party. This may pass. The change may be more apparent than real. We do not yet know. But that there seems to have been an astonishing change is undeniable. Millions of voters believe it. That is why they thought it safe to turn the Tories out. The switch did not so much reflect a recent dislike of Tories, as an ancient hatred of them — now made safe by Mr Blair.

The shock Conservative Party cannot quite absorb — the lesson that has still to be learned into their heads — is therefore very different from that suggested by all the editorial finger-wagging of recent weeks. From prime

minister will know — ventured an unsettling thought. It was commonplace among Tories to remark, she said, that May 1, 1997, was the low point of their party's fortunes. This was the trough, the bottom of the cycle. From here it could only be up.

According to this wisdom, she said, seats which turned marginal Labour last month should be easy targets for the Tories next time. Voters in Enfield, Shipley, Worcester or Watford would surely return to their natural Tory fold. We might not assume that the Conservatives would actually win at the next election, but it

would be very odd if they did not claw their way some distance out of the pit. Mrs Browning and I thought — I suspect all of us round the table did — that this reasoning was dangerous

ly wrong. Anyone who followed the campaign trials in April knows there are voters out there who did not vote for Mr Blair because they believed Mr Major's warnings that he might turn out to be a socialist after all. The "new Labour, new danger" slogan touched a nerve. There were voters who decided to give Mr Blair the benefit of the doubt, but there were also millions who, because they were naturally conservative, could not quite bring themselves to switch this time, and stuck with the Tories — or stayed at home.

In other words, there may exist among the electorate a huge and hidden reserve of potential support for new Labour, if only Mr Blair shows he can deliver the goods. That this might be so is suggested both anecdotally and by Labour's failure to recapture seats in places like Nurfolk, Meriden and Uxbridge which were, within memory, natural Labour seats.

The war-chant for post-election 1997 may not, then, be anywhere near the limit of Mr Blair's historic raid. We all know how he did it in 1997: by looking like a Conservative. How much better might he do in 2001 by staying at home.

But can he do it? Though I inclined to Ken Clarke, I do not know. Nor in their hearts do Tory MPs, though most have opted for one gang or the other. The division within the party is really a division within the breast of each. Unless Mr Blair stumbles at the dispatch box when she was a

Ken Clarke cannot keep his love life away from the cameras come with the news that his next co-star will be Helena Bonham Carter, his squeeze of the past two years. In a BBC film, *Theory of Flight*, Branagh plays an earnest artist who

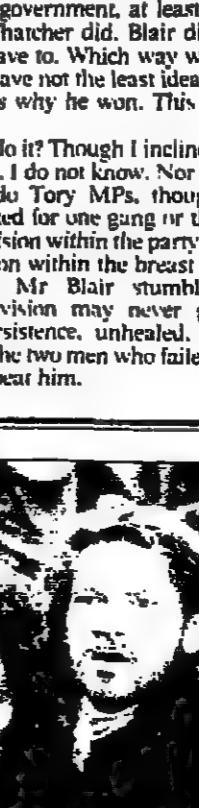
is

becomes smitten with a wheelchair-bound woman, played by Bonham Carter.

Branagh and his now estranged wife, Emma Thompson, made frequent film appearances together, playing fraught lovers such as Beatrice and Benedict in *Much Ado About Nothing*.

This time however, there will be

nothing so glamorous. "There is no romance at all. It's just a film about a friendship," says a spokesman for the film, which is currently being shot in Wales. "Both actors decided to do it because of the strength of the script."



Ken and Helena: new film



Castle Howard: calling in Kew Gardens to save the woodland

P.H.S

Philip Howard



■ Forget Doctors Faustus and Doolittle: the hagueries of hobbitry hold the key

Forget Vulcan and "Beam me up, Mr Scott", which was the true catchphrase in *Star Trek*. Not the false phrase "Beam me up, Scotty" or "Back me up, Mr Redwood". References to the Clarke-Redwood axis as an instability pact or the Barony Army marching over to the enemy like Lord Stanley's at Bosworth, or a Faustian compact, or Munich, or even the Molotov-Ribbentrop non-aggression treaty, are over the top. The Push-Pull-You offers new possibilities, with Dr Doolittle and the language of Dab-Dab the Hague duck and Gub-Gub the pig. But all show the narrow range of literary and historical similes available for explaining political events.

Such shorthand tags need to be simple black-and-white, and preferably from the nursery. And, they should be widely known, which may no longer be the case with Dr Doolittle. So why no Falstaff and Prince Hal for the Ken and John show? And what about Dickens? Pickwick and Alfred Jingle? Copperfield and Steerforth?

But the obvious metaphor that has eluded the political commentator so far is hobbitry. *The Lord of the Rings* has been voted the most popular literary work of the century. And the Tory leadership campaign has exhibited many of the features of Tolkiendom. For there is a heroic quest amid terrible dangers for a lost magical formula that may save Middle-Earth, or at any rate the foggy lands between Smith Square and the Hobbits of Parliament.

One Fudge to rule them all. One Fudge to find them. One Fudge to bring them all, and in the darkness bind them. But a renegade hobbit, Gollum of the Blair strain, has stolen their ring of power. Gollum's hearing for electoral advantage is acute, and from his hobbit of saying "If I may say so, the absolutely plain fact of the matter is . . ." he is known as Tony Blurr.

Ken Clarke is an obvious hobbit, because of his comfortable shape and tastes, his blokeish saloon-bar manner, and his love of ale and tobacco, though he prefers panettas to the pipes of tobacco through which Bilbo blows smoke-rings at the beginning of the saga. For a hobbit-hole, even in political crisis, means comfort.

Physically, the new Supreme Leader looks like a hobbit, with his fury hair fringe, though for certain identification we would need to take his socks and shoes off to discover whether he also has fury feet. But his grumpy accent and his precocious schoolboy speeches, telling his elders and betters that the future belonged to him because they would all soon be dead, suggest that he is one of the obnoxious and pushy Sackville-Bagginses.

John Redwood's pony head and ears and his reputation for unearthly intelligence point to Elvish blood. And hobbits were originally a matriarchal clan. Females get no good roles in the beefy Inklings wonderland of Tolkien. They stayed at home, cooking supper — except for Galadriel, the ever golden-haired once-and-future Queen. But her support and nostalgia for her mythical reign were decisive, for good or ill, to all the Companions of the Ring.

Even their names fit the metaphor. Clarke is a hobbit-like country monosyllable like Bree and the Shire and the Stoors. Redwood could be a name in those insanely complicated maps and genealogies. The Redhorn Gate, as you all know, was the most important pass over the Misty Mountains, and its eastern approach was known as the Dimrill Stair. Even the constant faxes with which the candidates have been showering us hourly with their stupefying thoughts for the day, have their Middle-earth counterpart in Toadfax.

The hobbit metaphor fits the Tories in their dark age, but, like all such goblin caps, not exactly. The Tolkien cult is sentimental and silly. *The Hobbit* was the only masterpiece, and it is still a brilliant book. *The Lord of the Rings* goes on a bit, and starts better than it ends. *The Silmarillion*, and the rest of the scraps from Tolkien's cutting-room floor, are unreadable, except by fanatics and exiles of the Flower Power generation.

The idea of an eternal struggle between good and evil, between Gandalf the Grey and Sauron, makes rather good romance, but poor politics in the works-day world of compromise. Any comfort-loving hobbit could see that. Once they get over their electoral excitement, Hague and some Tories may see it too.

TEST TUBE

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

OBITUARIES

Kim Casali, cartoonist, died after a short illness at her Surrey home on June 15 aged 55. She was born on September 9, 1941.

With their artless graphics and endearing "obvious" messages, the series of *Love is...* cartoons created by Kim Casali tapped a universal vein of semi-maturity, so earning their begetter a large fortune. They had begun as a series of unashamedly soppy notes written by the lovesick New Zealand Kim Grove to her Italian boyfriend, Roberto Casali, in California, where the pair were living illegally.

After the couple became engaged, Kim took a job as a receptionist for a design company, and made up little booklets of her winsome cartoons, which she sold for a dollar apiece. Word soon spread and the demand for *Love is...* escalated. Roberto recognised their commercial potential and showed them to an American journalist. Kim was invited to submit her cartoons to the *Los Angeles Times*, where they were so successful that they were soon also bought by other American papers. Eventually syndicated to sixty countries, the cartoons were earning their creator \$4.5 million a year at the height of their popularity in the 1960s and 1970s.

Julia Smith, creator of the BBC soap opera *EastEnders*, died yesterday in the Royal Marsden Hospital, London. She was in her late sixties.

The "Godmother" of the BBC's soaring soap *EastEnders*, the only woman who could tell Dirty Den what do "do and when", Julia Smith produced the serial from its first episode in 1985 until 1989. Described as "one of the

greatest social engineers of her time", she created in *EastEnders* a television serial of compelling realism which at a stroke made Granada's northern soap, *Coronation Street*, suddenly appear artificial.

Not only that, but its finely crafted plotlines kept the young couch potatoes who comprised the bulk of its audience on the *qui vive* episode after episode (as well as ensuring that their elders frequently and furiously watched on the second tele-

vision set in another room). *EastEnders* had its genesis in a cold March day in 1983 when Smith and her scriptwriter Tony Holland, with whom she collaborated on so much of the best of BBC popular television drama, were in Cardiff, working on an episode of *District Nurse*. They were suddenly summoned to London and asked to take on a new soap project.

Smith already had an impressive track record as a producer, and as a director had numerous episodes of *Dr Who*, *Dr Finlay's Casebook* and *Z-Cars* under her belt. In the 1970s, with Holland, she had successfully turned *Angels* from a series of 50-minute episodes into a twice-weekly serial, an achievement which recommended her to the BBC for the new project. But *EastEnders* still presented challenges that had not to that date fully been tackled by the Corporation.

Unlike *Angels*, which had run in 10-week segments, the

KIM CASALI



Casali's third son, Milo, was born. In the mid-1980s she moved with her three sons to Australia. There, on a ranch-style farm in the hills to the north of Sydney, she bred Arab horses for several years. But in 1990 she returned to Britain and settled in Surrey. She is survived by her three sons.



Casali in 1977 with her newborn son Milo, who was conceived by artificial insemination after her husband's death in one of the first such cases in Britain

JULIA SMITH

greatest social engineers of her time", she created in *EastEnders* a television serial of compelling realism which at a stroke made Granada's northern soap, *Coronation Street*, suddenly appear artificial.

Not only that, but its finely crafted plotlines kept the young couch potatoes who comprised the bulk of its audience on the *qui vive* episode after episode (as well as ensuring that their elders frequently and furiously watched on the second tele-

vision set in another room). *EastEnders* had its genesis in a cold March day in 1983 when Smith and her scriptwriter Tony Holland, with whom she collaborated on so much of the best of BBC popular television drama, were in Cardiff, working on an episode of *District Nurse*. They were suddenly summoned to London and asked to take on a new soap project.

Smith already had an impressive track record as a producer, and as a director

had numerous episodes of *Dr Who*, *Dr Finlay's Casebook* and *Z-Cars* under her belt. In the 1970s, with Holland, she had successfully turned *Angels* from a series of 50-minute episodes into a twice-weekly serial, an achievement which recommended her to the BBC for the new project. But *EastEnders* still presented challenges that had not to that date fully been tackled by the Corporation.

Unlike *Angels*, which had run in 10-week segments, the

LADY d'AVIGDOR-GOLDSMID

Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, hostess and collector, died on June 13, aged 86. She was born on July 22, 1910.

ROSIE GOLDSMID was a hostess who moved happily in the artistic, literary and political worlds from the 1930s onwards, and enjoyed mixing "pretty women" and "important men". She was also a daring art collector, and in her later years she owned racehorses.

She was born Rosemary Margaret Nicholl, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles Nicholl of Wargrave, Berkshire, and went to school at St Margaret's, Bushy, along with Penelope Chenevix, who later married John Betjeman. At 21 she married Peter Horlick, unsuccessfully: the marriage was dissolved after three years.

Then, in 1940, she married Sir Henry d'Avigdor-Goldsmid, a merchant banker and bullion broker, moving to his enormous sprawling Jacobean house, Somerhill, outside Tonbridge, Kent. She spent part of that first summer lying on the lawn, watching the Battle of Britain being fought overhead. "During the battle," she recalled, "the lawn had to be cleared before it could be mown."

Sir Henry came from a distinguished Jewish family and had been educated at Harrow and Oxford. He served throughout the war, winning the DSO and the MC. A cultivated man, he was an advocate of Proust and a student of Dickens.

In rather a patrician manner, he felt a strong sense of duty. While he acted as High Sheriff of Kent and master of foxhounds to the Edge Hill Hunt, Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid was very active as chairman or president of a host of local societies and charities, giving out prizes at schools, flower shows and the like.

She was chairman of the nearby primary school for more than 50 years, and campaigned to keep open the Cottage Hospital at the bottom of the Somerhill drive, when it was threatened with closure. Later, having developed an interest in contemporary art, she was active with the Friends of the Tate Gallery.

In Parliament as Conservative MP for Walsall South from 1955 to 1974, Sir Henry chaired successive financial committees. Considered the best financier in the Commons, he sternly criticised the

inflationary growth in public spending indulged in, to the Tories' cost, by Edward Heath. At a time of marginal income tax rates above 80 per cent, he also opposed "surtax" because of its disincentive effects. The British people, he wrote, were "over-taxed, over-governed, over-supervised, and over-harassed". From 1969, Sir Henry headed the board of Robert Maxwell's company, Pergamon Press, although Maxwell was sitting opposite him in the House of

Royal College of Art. Sarah Goldsmith bought her mother a painting by the young and unknown David Hockney for £12 (the first he ever sold), and Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid began to collect modern art. Advised by the Bond Street dealer John Kasmin, she bought more Hockneys and was quick to begin collecting American Abstract artists such as Mark Rothko, Kenneth Noland and Morris Louis.

Buying *avant garde* works through the Sixties with a gang of friends, she left many in the younger generation far behind. Her taste was subsequently followed by the market, but she was right in saying that she never bought a picture her husband liked.

In 1963, the couple's 21-year-old daughter, Sarah, was killed in a dinghy accident off the South Coast, with a friend, David Winn. They had been sailing with Patrick Pakenham, son of Lord and Lady Longford, when the boat capsized several miles from shore. Pakenham managed to swim ashore, but the others perished from cold and exhaustion.

Sarah and her mother had been thrilled by Chagall's stained-glass in a hospital in Jerusalem, so in Sarah's memory, Lady Goldsmid commissioned Marc Chagall to design windows for the village church at Tudeley. Chagall visited Kent for the unveiling of the east window, and his designs for the 15 windows were executed subsequently. Also in Sarah's memory the family built 20 new houses in Walsall, which were given to the House of Commons — on the Labour benches.

Commons

— on the Labour

benches.

The d'Avigdor-Goldsmids

were stalwarts of the Establishment, being friends of the Rothschilds, the Beauvaisbrooks, Lord Shawcross, Randolph Churchill and the Duchess of Argyll (to whom on one occasion Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid made a handsome cash loan).

Lady Goldsmid loved champagne and cigars, and relished her role as stylish hostess. In Kent and at their Chelsea house, she cultivated writers and artists as well as politicians and businessmen. Guests included Jascha Heifetz, the Sitwells, Cyril Connolly and Anthony Powell.

In 1953, Somerhill was broken into, and safe containing more than £20,000 worth of jewellery was wheeled away in a pram. Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid's sister, Patience Smale, later told a court that she had made a sketch of the estate for an acquaintance accused of the theft, who was said to have boasted "I have done Somerhill" — but the case against him was dropped.

In 1967, Somerhill suffered a further break-in, when five paintings were stolen, including a Pisarro and a Guardi view of Venice. On the final day of the 1962 graduation show at the

Sir Henry died in 1976, and Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid moved out of Somerhill in 1981 (it now houses no fewer than three schools). She moved into a cottage that had been the house's old laundry, and maintained a home in London until eventually the strain of travelling became too much.

The d'Avigdor-Goldsmids'

second daughter, Chloe, who

married James Teacher of the whisky family, suffered a serious head injury after falling from her horse while hunting with the Quorn in 1988. But despite going into a coma she made a surprising recovery, and in 1994 became High Sheriff of Kent as her father had once been.

Lady d'Avigdor-Goldsmid

died peacefully, surrounded by friends and family, and is survived by her daughter Chloe.

PERSONAL COLUMN

FLIGHTS DIRECTORY

COUSTOURISTS on flights & hotel bookings. Call 0171-7920 2201. ASTA 25703 IATA/ONATL 1986.

FLIGHTSEATS

Discount flights & hotel bookings. Call 0171-7920 2201. ASTA 25703 IATA/ONATL 1986.

AIRLINK Worldwide

Discount flights & hotel bookings. Call 0171-713-7770.

FLIGHTWISE

Discount flights & hotel bookings. Call 0171-560-0899.

JETLINE

Discount flights & hotel bookings. Call 0171-360-1111.

FLIGHTWISE

Discount flights & hotel bookings. Call 0171-360-1111.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monument Travel

cheapest fares available

SPAIN 59 CROATIA 519

GERMANY 59 GREECE 519

FRANCE 59 CYPRUS 519

ITALY 59 AUSTRALIA 519

CANADA 59 SINGAPORE 519

NETHERLANDS 59 SAUDI ARABIA 519

THAILAND 59 TURKEY 519

INDIA 59 CHINA 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

PHILIPPINES 59 MEXICO 519

PERU 59 BOLIVIA 519

CHILE 59 ECUADOR 519

URUGUAY 59 PARAGUAY 519

BRAZIL 59 ARGENTINA 519

CHINA 59 TAIWAN 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

PHILIPPINES 59 MEXICO 519

PERU 59 BOLIVIA 519

CHILE 59 ECUADOR 519

URUGUAY 59 PARAGUAY 519

BRAZIL 59 ARGENTINA 519

CHINA 59 TAIWAN 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

PHILIPPINES 59 MEXICO 519

PERU 59 BOLIVIA 519

CHILE 59 ECUADOR 519

URUGUAY 59 PARAGUAY 519

BRAZIL 59 ARGENTINA 519

CHINA 59 TAIWAN 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

PHILIPPINES 59 MEXICO 519

PERU 59 BOLIVIA 519

CHILE 59 ECUADOR 519

URUGUAY 59 PARAGUAY 519

BRAZIL 59 ARGENTINA 519

CHINA 59 TAIWAN 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

PHILIPPINES 59 MEXICO 519

PERU 59 BOLIVIA 519

CHILE 59 ECUADOR 519

URUGUAY 59 PARAGUAY 519

BRAZIL 59 ARGENTINA 519

CHINA 59 TAIWAN 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

PHILIPPINES 59 MEXICO 519

PERU 59 BOLIVIA 519

CHILE 59 ECUADOR 519

URUGUAY 59 PARAGUAY 519

BRAZIL 59 ARGENTINA 519

CHINA 59 TAIWAN 519

TAIWAN 59 VIETNAM 519

NEWS

Hague promises to heal Tory split

■ William Hague became the youngest Tory leader for 200 years last night and swiftly promised to heal the divisions that have dogged the party for years and cast it into the wilderness.

He defeated Kenneth Clarke by the unexpectedly large margin of 92 votes to 70 after the shadow Chancellor's last-minute deal with John Redwood was condemned by Tory MPs as a cynical marriage of convenience to see Mr Clarke home and get Mr Redwood a senior Shadow post. Pages 1, 2, 20, 21

Jonathan Aitken and wife separate

■ Jonathan Aitken and his wife, Lolicia, are to separate "for personal reasons" after 18 years of marriage. Mr Aitken, 54, and his Serbian-born wife have spent most of the past three weeks at the High Court where he is fighting a libel action against *The Guardian* and Granada TV. Pages 1, 4

McVictory

The fast-food chain McDonald's won a Pyrrhic victory when it was awarded £60,000 in damages at the end of its £10 million record-breaking libel action against two "green" campaigners. Pages 1, 6

Sporting washout

The second Test against Australia at Lord's was washed out and Wimbledon may get off to an interrupted start, but wind and rain did not ruffle Ladies' Day racegoers at Ascot. Page 10

New private jails

The Government produced plans for two new privately run jails, abandoning its election pledge to end the privatisation of the Prison Service. By 1998 there will be 65,000 inmates. Page 4

Aitken trial

Jonathan Aitken's libel hearing was adjourned so that his lawyers could investigate new evidence against him. He may be recalled to the witness box. Page 4

Film violence

A new film about the war between India and Pakistan in 1971, *Border*, has provoked violence between the Indian and Pakistani communities in Leeds. Page 5

Nazis bombed Dublin

German bombers attacked Dublin in 1941 to intimidate the Irish and prevent them assisting the Allies, according to a study of records in Munich. Page 8

It's a fit woman's life in the Army

■ The Army has introduced a new fitness assessment to keep pace with equal opportunity requirements and ensure that women have the same chance as men to compete for jobs. Females must do all the same press-ups, pull-ups and running, but the work-out is limited to take account of their weaker upper bodies and different breathing rhythms. Page 1



Tony Blair visiting the Millennium Exhibition site in Greenwich yesterday with, from left, Bernard Ainsworth, the McAlpine-Laing joint project director, John Prescott, Chris Smith and Peter Mandelson. Pages 8, 21

BUSINESS

Guinness: Bernard Arnault, chairman of the French luxury goods concern LVMH, has intervened in the £23 billion planned merger between Grand Metropolitan and Guinness. Page 25

Nationwide: A campaign to force the Nationwide to convert into a bank was upset when the leader of the challenge said it should stay as a building society. Page 25

Estate agents: Hambro Worldwide has made an agreed bid for D Wood, the upmarket estate agency. Page 25

Markets: The FTSE 100 rises 3.3 points to close at 4653.7. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 100.0 to 100.4 after a rise from \$1.6396 to \$1.6463 and from DM2.8311 to DM2.8395. Page 25

Rugby union: Martin Johnson is the only member of England's tight five forwards to represent the British Isles in the first international against South Africa at Newlands in Cape Town. Page 48

Selling: Pete Goss, the Briton decorated by France for rescuing a fellow yachtsman, shrugs off his new status as a hero. Page 46

Crieket: Lord MacLaurin of Knebworth, chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board, talks about the new mood sweeping the England camp. Page 48

Tennis: Monica Seles was trailing Brenda Schultz-McCarthy by one set when rain forced the abandonment of their quarter-final in the Direct Line championships at Eastbourne. Page 44

Cat-fight: The impresario Sir Cameron Mackintosh tells Richard Morrison why Lord Lloyd-Webber is all wrong with his bleak prognosis for musical theatre. Page 33

All lit up: Her last album was a flop and her concerts half empty, but k.d. lang is bouncing back with renewed confidence and an album based on smoking. Page 34

Ry's rhythm: David Sinclair reviews the week's top pop album releases, from Paul Weller's enduring vision to Ry Cooder's exuberant foray into the exotic rhythms of Cuba. Page 35

Ring of confidence: The first complete Ring cycle outside London for decades opens in Norwich with Norwegian Opera's fine staging of *Das Rheingold*. Page 36

Posched eggs: The sevruga sturgeon faces extinction in Russia as poaching and smuggling become big business. Richard Beeston reports from Moscow. Page 18

No comment: Never comment when a woman asks: "Do you think this makes me look fat?" Dave Wilson's advice to men. Page 18

Staying cool: Valerie Grove finds Hong Kong entrepreneur David Tang sanguine about the handing of the colony. Page 19

EDUCATION

Unplaced: When families relocate, they sometimes find there is no school place for their children next term. Gill Bowker spots an educational trap. Page 59

JOHN LLOYD

As a palimpsest — of old Labour attitudes, Thatcherism, business school precepts, communitarian and religious morality layered with a residual Marxist revisionism — the Government is tugged this way and that. Page 20

PHILIP HOWARD

William Hague looks like a hobbyist with his fury hair fringe. His preposterous schoolboy speeches, telling his elders and betters that the future belonged to him because they would all soon be dead, suggest that he is one of the pushy Sackville-Bagginses. Page 20

MATTHEW PARRIS

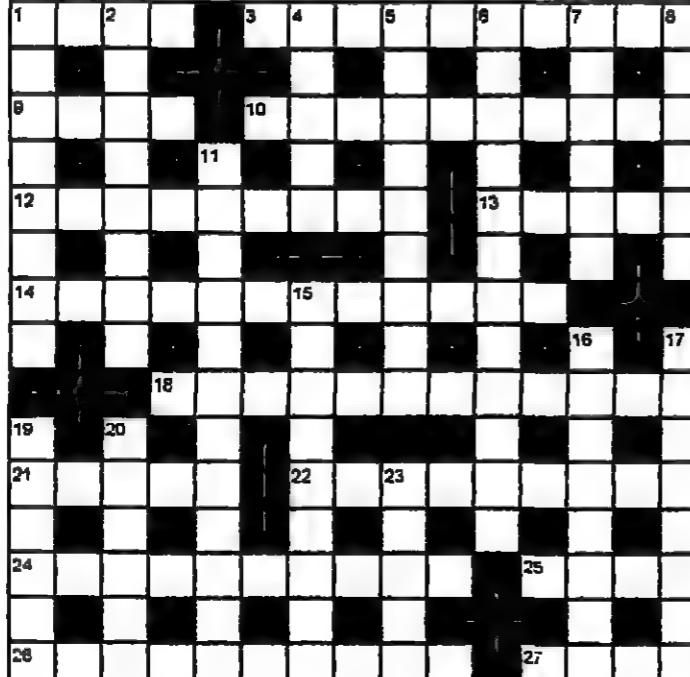
The Conservative Party may be fighting not to win the next election, but for me it exists. The dark hour is not necessarily just before the dawn; it may be just before it goes completely black. Page 20

THE PAPERS

If Europe can be measured by the great hopes that it inspires, then the Amsterdam treaty is one of the most patient failures in its history. The text which was approved does not have much to do with the hopes raised at the end of the 1980s when there was talk of a federal Europe, of a region without frontiers and a continent which could speak loud and strong on the international stage. — *La Libre Belgique*

The mass murderer: Timothy McVeigh surely deserves the most severe penalty available in a civilised society. But we firmly believe that execution by the state would be immoral. — *The Washington Post*

Future of the RAF: Fitzwilliam Museum; NHS funding. Page 21

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,511**ACROSS**

- One key element missing from band (4).
- Wrangler employed to keep tracks open (10).
- By the sound of it, drew some running water (4).
- Cosmetic discovered to be used by one in a hundred (10).
- Find musical event jolly (9).
- Grant some freshmen do without (5).
- Dealer may behave unexpectedly generously (4,2,6).
- Murphy still wearing coat (6).
- A pound — money reserved (5).
- Drunken soldier left business centre backwards (9).
- Being competent and attractive (10).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,510

CATCH REFRESHES

- E A S E F A T
- M E M O R A N D A F I N E R
- S P E B O T T E D E
- M O O L A H T H I C K S E T
- B G A E T D C
- E A S T E N D E R S L O T H
- R A V B W E
- T O T E S E Y E O P E N E R
- C I C N D R B
- H E N P A R T Y B O T T I L E
- E W L U E G I A
- E M O T E R E D L E T T E R
- S O N E D S I L E
- E N D L E S S S W E A R

Times Two Crossword, page 48

AA INFORMATION

Latest Road and Weather conditions

UK Weather - All regions 0336 464 910

UK Roads - All regions 0356 461 410

AA Motorway 0336 461 258

M25 and Link Roads 0336 461 746

National Motorways 0336 461 746

Other UK Motorways 0336 461 910

Channel crossing & Gwaelod sur 0336 461 300

0336 467 808

Weather by Fax

0336 461 258 (area number from year fax)

UK County 0121 320 0000 (England)

Water 0126 235 235 (Scotland)

East Anglia 0120 237 999 (Norfolk)

West Wales 0120 239 229 (Pembrokeshire)

NI East 0120 240 240 (Northern Ireland)

Scotland 0120 240 240 (Scotland)

Metres (further information required)

0336 461 300

World City Weather 0336 461 258

135 destinations world wide

0 day forecast

by Phone 0336 461 2120

0336 461 0923

Motor

Europe Country by Country 0336 461 258

European road info 0336 461 258

Reports information 0336 461 258

Emergency services 0336 461 258

Le Shuttle 0336 461 258

AA Car reports by fax

new and used car reports from the AA menu of 195 cars

0336 416 399

Dot from your car handset, you may have to set to poll receive mode

Automobile Association Development Unit, Ward House, Buntingford, Herts, WD1 8PF, Tel: 0520 8274 997

Calls are charged to 50p per minute or all time

AA Motoring Information

0336 461 258

Hours of Darkness

Sun rises

04:42 21st

Sun sets

09:21 pm

Moon sets

04:49 am

Moon rises

08:44 pm

Full moon today

04:49 am

AA Motorway

0336 461 258

AA Motorway

THE TIMES



INSIDE
SECTION
2
TODAY



ECONOMICS

Anatole Kaletsky
says expect harsh
Budget measures
PAGE 29

EDUCATION

Why the world
is beating a
path to Corby
PAGE 39



SPORT

Reluctant hero of
the seas lands
highest honour
PAGES 40-48

**TELEVISION
AND
RADIO
PAGES
46, 47**

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

Spending boom propelling economy to boiling point

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRITAIN is in the grip of a post-election consumer borrowing boom, with new data suggesting that the economy is heading towards boiling point. Overall bank lending more than doubled to £9.2 billion in May, according to the latest Bank of England data.

Separate figures from the British Bankers Association showed personal lending increasing by a record £1.4 billion last month. The BBA also found consumer credit growing at twice the rate of May last year. Economists said the latest data

suggested that Gordon Brown would need to raise about £5 billion through tax rises in the Budget next month, to stave off hefty interest rate rises. But the City concluded that Mr Brown would find little extra ammunition for tax rises, in a report by the National Audit Office into Treasury forecasting assumptions.

Yesterday's NAO report, which backed Mr Brown's more cautious economic assumptions, suggested that Government borrowing would be £20 billion higher over the course of this Parliament than under Budget forecasts made by Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor. The

NAO also downgraded the predicted savings from the "spend to save" crackdown on tax and benefit fraud by nearly £2 billion, to £4.9 billion.

But economists said the revised PSBR predictions, which include an overshoot on the previous forecast of just £500 million for this year, are well within the standard margin of error for economic forecasting.

Adam Cole, UK economist at James Capel, said: "The NAO found some evidence that the underlying assumptions in the Chancellor's inherited figures are too optimistic, but not the black hole that many feared."

The NAO supported the Treasury's decision to lower its growth assumption from 2.5 per cent to 2.25 per cent, which is in line with most long-term City estimates. The Treasury will also revert to using a flat assumption of unemployment — 1.65 million for this year — rather than making its own forecast.

But the Treasury intends to employ a market consensus for its interest rate forecasts rather than using its own internal model, a reform made necessary by the decision to hand control of interest rates to the Bank of England. The NAO also supported the Government's decision to include in its Budget assumptions money expected to be raised from privatisation proceeds only when the sales have been announced.

The NAO report unsettled the gilt markets, with September gilts futures closing down 11½ at 113.03. But the main focus of the money markets was the stronger than expected monetary data, which prompted sterling to hit new post-ERM highs in trading before falling slightly to close at DM2.8395, from DM2.8311 the previous day.

But the distributive trades survey, published today by the Confederation of British Industry, shows manufacturing exports picking up this month despite the strong pound. Overall demand for manufacturing goods also improved, although the CBI said that the improvement represented only a small revival in orders.

The Bank of England data also showed M4, the measure of broad money supply, rising sharply to an annual rate of 11.1 per cent in May, against City forecasts of a rise of 10.2 per cent. Meanwhile, figures produced by the Building Societies Association also showed that the housing market remains buoyant.

Rift holds up search for GEC's new chief

By OLIVER AUGUST

A BOARDROOM rift at GEC is believed to have delayed the appointment of a successor to Lord Prior, who will retire as chairman next March.

Lord Prior said: "It is not an easy thing to find a new chairman for the group." A nominations committee is looking for candidates, delaying an announcement until the winter.

Michael Heseltine, the former Deputy Prime Minister, was put forward as a candidate but George Simpson, chief executive, is believed to be against his appointment. Mr Simpson, a member of the nominations committee, is preparing a shake-up at GEC.

Three non-executive directors, Sebastian de Ferranti, John Lippitt and Lord Rees-Mogg, will retire from the board at the annual meeting in September. Lord Prior said his successor would definitely not be appointed before the meeting.

The new non-executive directors are Nigel Stapleton, co-chairman of Reed Elsevier, Baroness Dunn, deputy chairman of HSBC Holdings, and Alan Rudge, BT deputy chief executive. Lord Prior, a former Tory minister, is retiring at the age of 70 after 13 years at GEC. He said: "It is now time for me to leave the scene. My age is the only reason for leaving but it's quite a good one." In retirement he will chair the Arab-British Chamber of Commerce.

Commentary, page 27

Arnault swoops to lift GrandMet stake

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

BERNARD ARNAULT, chairman of LVMH, the French luxury goods concern, has made a dramatic intervention in the £23 billion planned merger of Grand Metropolitan and Guinness by paying almost £800 million for a 6 per cent stake in GrandMet.

Although LVMH insisted that the only motive was to ensure that his influence would be heard to the full in the months of negotiations that will precede the combining of two of the world's biggest drinks groups, there was speculation on the stock market that the new stake will be used to try to block the deal.

The French already have 14 per cent of Guinness. Sources close to LVMH indicated last night that M Arnault still intended to vote any stakes in either company that he may hold against the merger. He is also expected to increase his GrandMet holding if more shares become available.

LVMH, acting through Barlays de Zoet Wedd, bought 125 million shares yesterday from City institutions. Most of the purchase was in two blocks of 50 million shares each, bought from Mercury Asset Management and PPFM. It is thought, the deal was at 630p, against a GrandMet share price that rose 17½ to 603½.

They represent 5.9 per cent of GrandMet's equity and take the French holding to 6.3 per cent. M Arnault, who has a seat on the Guinness board, voted there against the deal, which would create a new company to be called GMG.

Brands, but was overtaken by the other directors. He has said he would prefer an outcome that combined the two UK companies' wine and spirits operations with his own 66 per cent-owned Moët Hennessy business, the balance of which is held by Guinness.

M Arnault has also started proceedings in the French courts to unwind various joint venture arrangements between his company and Guinness in a move that could also threaten the merger.

The share purchases were seen as hostile by GrandMet. A spokesman said: "It's hard to read this as anything other than an attempt to stop the merger, but Guinness and GrandMet believe that the GMG proposal offers more value for all shareholders than his alternative, and they will continue with the process."

M Arnault's two stakes would give him 10 per cent of GMG, if he does not buy more GrandMet shares — he is barred by an agreement from raising his Guinness stake. The eventual vote will need a 75 per cent majority, and analysts did not believe a holding of this size would be enough to block the deal.

LVMH was calling the new stake an "influence play". An insider said: "It makes sure, when it comes to the merger, he has got a lot of say on both sides."

However, a GrandMet source said: "You don't spend £800 million to start a conversation with us. A telephone call would have been cheaper."

Cocktail shaken, page 29



Bernard Arnault is out to scupper Guinness merger

Hambro agrees bid for John D Wood

By ADAM JONES

HAMBRO COUNTRYWIDE has made an agreed bid for John D Wood, the upmarket estate agency, valuing the company at £11.9 million. The bid follows the purchase of Faron Sutaria, a central London agent, this year.

Hambro Countrywide will pay John D Wood shareholders 145p in cash for each share. This will mean a payment of about £2.9 million to Ian Hornsham, the joint chairman, who intends to retire after the integration has been completed.

John D Wood operates in

Fastline team to share £8m

By FRASER NELSON

A FORMER British Rail manager who led the buyout of Fastline, the railway track renewal company, is to pick up £2.6 million after agreeing to sell the company to Jarvis for £5 million.

David Doggett, who put up £50,000 for his stake, is part of a six-man team that will share £8 million for a holding bought for £250,000 less than two years ago. Mr Doggett, who has been with the company since joining British Rail as a graduate trainee, will pocket £1.5 million in cash and the remainder in shares.

About 170 lower-level managers who bought shares at 45p each are being offered

£70 a share. A further 1,200 employees who did not buy shares are to receive an average bonus payout of £3,000.

Paris Moayed, chief executive of Jarvis, said the company's offer marked a fair reward for the work Mr Doggett's team had put into Fastline after buying it from the Government for £25 million. He contrasted the success with the record of Relayfast, another track-maintenance company, which Jarvis is also buying for £25 million.

Fastline's management is to remain in place, while Relayfast has been given a new chief executive and operations director.

Jarvis will command 14.1 per cent of the railway infrastructure services market after the purchase, making it the second-largest name in the industry. The Office of Fair Trading said it is looking into the deal, which Jarvis is funding via a £65 million rights issue. New shares are being issued at 25p each on a 9-for-32 basis.

Jarvis made an expected pre-tax profit of £15.2 million in the 15 months to March 31, against a £500,000 profit in the 12 months of 1995. Earnings were 15.6p a share (1.2p for 1995) and a maiden dividend rises to 5.6p with a final 4p, due on August 1.

'Queen of Mean' to sell property empire

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN NEW YORK

LEONA HELMSLEY, the real estate baroness of New York, has put the bulk of her vast property empire up for sale, including a stake in the Empire State Building. Mrs Helmsley, dubbed the "Queen of Mean", expects to raise more than \$5 billion.

The Helmsley empire, built by her late and equally hard-nosed husband, Harry Helmsley, includes 125 properties in several American cities. The heaviest concentration is in Manhattan.

The 76-year-old owns 25 million sq ft of office property in Manhattan, 7,500 hotel

rooms, 50 retail buildings and 8 million sq ft of warehouses and garages. Apart from the Empire State Building, the major Manhattan properties in which she has an interest are the Graybar Building, 1 Penn Plaza, the Helmsley Building, the Lincoln Building and the Flatiron Building.

Benjamin Lambert, the chairman of Eastdil Realty, who has been hired as broker and co-ordinator for the property sales, said: "She has plenty of money. It's just that the market is strong. But strong markets don't last forever, and I think we will be moving quickly."

Given the tangled ownership of many

of her properties the sell-off could prove complicated. Recently, two octogenarian Helmsley partners, Irving Schneider and Alvin Schwartz, sued Mrs Helmsley for control of Helmsley-Spear, the management and brokerage company.

One Times Square, arguably the most valuable billboard site in the world, has been sold by Lehman Brothers to the Jamestown group, a German investment firm, for \$110 million. The vendors bought the needle-thin advertising tower only two years ago for \$27.5 million. Annual advertising revenue from the site is estimated to be in the region of \$10 million.

ALFRED DUNHILL



THE AD2000 PEN

Carbon Fibre fountain pen and interchangeable Ballpoint/Rollerball. Available in a range of colours and finishes from 48 Jermyn Street, London SW1 and selected outlets nationwide. Prices start from £105.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR A BROCHURE CONTACT CUSTOMER SERVICES 0171 290 8600



Transport funding set for shakeup

By ARTHUR LEATHLEY
TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

MINISTERS began a radical rethink of transport funding yesterday as they admitted that new sources of income will be needed to pay for future improvements.

As the Government put on hold more than 100 road-building schemes, ministers began a strategic review that will decide whether to introduce charges for urban and motorway driving and for company parking.

Gavin Strang, the Minister for Transport, said that decisions on 12 road projects worth £1.5 billion, are likely to be rushed through by next month. The accelerated review will include controversial plans to build the privately-funded northern relief road for Birmingham, the Salisbury bypass and widening of the M25 in Surrey. The review will not affect road schemes already started, or on which contracts have been awarded.

The remainder of the schemes, mostly long-term projects, will be decided next spring, when the conclusions of the review will be announced before publication of a White Paper that will set out plans for public transport funding into the next century.

Dr Strang said that charges for car use will feature as part of the review but added that the Government was "neutral" on the issue. However, he said that there was "a limited amount of money" that could be raised from taxpayers. "I think it is pretty clear that we are going to have to find a new source of revenue and I describe that as a dedicated income stream," he said.

Dr Strang's announcement comes after the Government's manifesto pledges to introduce an integrated transport policy and persuade motorists to switch to buses and trains.



Fair progress: Sebastian Coe, centre, at the launch of one of his health clubs with John Jarvis, left, and David Thomas, deputy chief executive

The force is with Safeway in Irish joint venture

BY SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SAFEWAY, the supermarket group, has set up a joint venture with Fitzwilson of Ireland with the aim of becoming a major force in food retailing on both sides of the Irish border.

The 50-50 joint venture, Safeway Stores (Ireland), is paying £65 million to buy nine Wellworth supermarkets in Northern Ireland now owned by Fitzwilson, the holding company of Tony O'Reilly. A further six of the larger Wellworth stores are being taken under licence, with options to purchase. The deal also includes four development sites. The new stores will create 1,000 jobs.

Safeway will have management control of the venture and will put its name on all the stores. It will become the second-largest food retailer in Northern Ireland behind Tesco, which bought the Irish food retailing arm of Associated British Foods in March for £630 million.

That deal also gave Tesco market leadership in the Irish Republic. Simon Laffin, finance director of Safeway, said the joint venture would also aim for the number two spot there. It intends to expand southwards as quickly as possible and has begun looking for suitable sites. It plans to open three to four new stores per year, concentrating on the Republic.

Fitzwilson also revealed yesterday that it has sold the business of most of the rest of the Wellworth chain to Musgrave, an Irish retailer.

Fitzwilson will lease 21 stores to Musgrave for an annual rental, with an option arrangement for eventual sale.

Fitzwilson will be left with two branches of Wellworth, which it hopes to sell soon.

Mr Laffin said Safeway intended to make the most of the local knowledge Fitzwilson would be able to provide. He pointed out that rival companies J Sainsbury, which is developing small operation in Northern Ireland, and Tesco have had difficulty ob-

taining planning permission for new stores.

Safeway will refurbish the stores, adding petrol and car parking, at a cost of £50 million. Each partner will initially contribute £10 million of equity capital. The rest of the funding will be through debt.

The venture should break even this year after financing before charging some £10 million of launch costs over the next three years. Mr Laffin said it should make a profit in its third year.

Labour worries Caledonia

BY PAUL DURMAN

CALEDONIA Investments, the company that owns big stakes in Close Brothers, Exco and Ivory & Sime, is still worried that the Labour Government might revert to socialist ways.

Peter Buckley, Caledonia's chairman, said: "The temptation

ed by Brussels" would damage smaller companies.

Caledonia was reporting annual pre-tax profits of £75.7 million, up from £40.2 million. Most of this improvement was a result of one-off factors. The company made a £25.9 million profit on last December's reorganisation of its investment in Bristol Helicopters.

The other important change was the inclusion of Close Brothers as an associate for the full year. Caledonia's share of profits from the investment banking group, of which it owns 25 per cent, was the main reason why profits from associate companies rose to £29.8 million (£20.9 million).

Caledonia is not paying a dividend, having brought forward its payments to the day of the election.

A final dividend of 2p makes a total of 3p for the nine months since flotation.

Watchdogs act over Net deals

BY ROBERT MILLER

CITY watchdogs are to hold urgent talks with their international counterparts on how to protect investors who are expected to buy billions of pounds worth of long-term investments on the Internet within the next three years.

A report — *The Internet and Financial Services* — published yesterday by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation, and backed by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, is to be used as a basis for regulators to formulate a common approach to patrolling the Internet. Andrew Winkel, SIB's chief executive, said watchdogs favoured firms flagging their authorisation which could then be checked on the SIB Central Register.

Tourist rates

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.29	2.13
Austria Sch	20.90	19.35
Bulgaria Fr	0.55	0.51
Canada \$	2.40	2.29
Cyprus Cyp	0.883	0.816
Denmark Kr	11.35	10.53
Egypt £	9.01	8.31
France F	10.00	9.29
Germany DM	2.99	2.76
Greece Dr	474	437
Hong Kong \$	10.45	10.23
Iceland	127	107
Ireland P	1.14	1.06
Israel Shek	5.95	5.20
Italy Lira	2.95	2.74
Japan Yen	201.00	186.62
Malta	0.655	0.608
New Zealand \$	3.773	3.096
Norway Kr	2.54	2.32
Portugal Esc	12.48	11.11
Spain Pes	237.50	227.00
Sweden Kr	8.11	7.19
Switzerland Fr	250.00	232.50
United Kingdom £	12.44	12.41
Turkey Lira	2.51	2.31
USA \$	2498.00	2313.01
	1.743	1.609

Jarvis Hotels registers 30% rise

BY MARTIN BARROW

JARVIS HOTELS, whose shares trade at a discount to the flotation price one year after the company came to the market, yesterday reported a near-30 per cent rise in annual profits and issued an upbeat statement on current market conditions.

John Jarvis, chairman, said: "The company delivered exactly what we undertook to do in the prospectus — increase turnover, improve margin, deliver substantially increased profits and through acquisitions and investment, build an even stronger portfolio for the future." The company achieved occupancy rates of about 65 per cent.

Pre-tax profits rose to £24.1 million from £18.6 million in the year to March 29, lifting earnings to 13.7p a share from 10.7p. The shares edged 2.5p higher to 150p, against the flotation price of 175p.

Mr Jarvis believes one reason for the weak share price is the overhang of stock left by the succession of hotel company floatations that took place at the same time, including MacDonald Hotels and Millennium and Copthorne.

Jarvis, which acquired seven hotels during the financial year, has high hopes for its Sebastian Coe health clubs that are located within 17 hotels. The company has negotiated a new five-year agreement with the former athlete, who lost his parliamentary seat at the last election.

A final dividend of 2p makes a total of 3p for the nine months since flotation.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

ED & F Man exceeds City expectations

PROFITS at ED & F Man, the commodities and financial services group, exceeded City forecasts regardless of huge losses on the sugar and cocoa markets. The pre-tax figure rose 5 per cent to £85.2 million against forecasts of £78 million to £84 million. The financial services division increased pre-tax profits by 13 per cent, to £12.5 million. Man Investment Products performed very strongly in the second half, with pre-tax profits of £30.5 million, up from £14.2 million.

Pre-tax profits for its sugar business fell to £31.6 million from £45.5 million the year before. The cocoa, coffee, nuts and spices business saw unchanged pre-tax profits of £4.1 million. A profit of £2.7 million from coffee, nuts and spices was offset by a £4.6 million loss on cocoa. In the year to March 31, earnings per share rose by 3 per cent to 22p. The final dividend of 7.3p will be paid on September 5, taking the total dividend to 10.7p, up by 6 per cent.

Tempus, page 28

Lloyd backs Snakeboard

DAVID LLOYD, the former tennis player, has agreed to lend £200,000 to Snakeboard International, the skateboard company whose shares trade on the Alternative Investment Market, and will become its non-executive chairman. The company suffered a £370,000 loss in the six months to March 31 after production failures stopped shipments of its steerable skateboards. However, it won orders of \$1.1 million in June. Directors have agreed to a 33 per cent pay cut and surrendered 50 per cent of their share options. Market report, page 28

Metrotect turnover rises

METROTTECT INDUSTRIES, the manufacturer and supplier of pipeline protection products, lifted pre-tax profits to £926,000 from £106,000 in the year to March 31. The final dividend is 0.65p a share, making a total of 1p (0.7p), payable from earnings that rose to 2.84p a share from 0.43p. The company is based in West Yorkshire and exports 90 per cent of its products, mainly to markets in South-East Asia and the Indian sub-continent.

Warning for insurers

THE UK is heading for a massive increase in lawsuits aimed at making professional indemnity insurance policies pay out, a Lloyd's of London conference was told yesterday. David McIntosh, senior partner at Davies Arnold Cooper, the law firm, said that industry rivals, consumer groups and the Government will increasingly take the initiative in suing companies that supply allegedly faulty products or services.

Cox plans are shelved

COX INSURANCE, based at Lloyd's of London, has shelved plans to buy underwriting capacity from individual investors in its syndicate because they had unrealistic expectations of the value of their interest. Describing market conditions as "extremely competitive", the group unveiled pre-tax profit for the year to March 31 of £17.1 million (£1.3 million). Earnings per share were 13.8p (3.6p). The board is recommending a final dividend of 2.1p, making a total of 3.85p (nil).

Hewlett Packard growth

HEWLETT PACKARD, the US computer company, is to invest £160 million in expanding its manufacturing plant in the Republic of Ireland. The new facility will assemble printer pens for inkjet printers and will create a further 1,000 jobs at Kildare over the next four years. Negotiations between Hewlett Packard and the IDB, Ireland's job-creation agency, about a further 800 jobs at a new wafer fabrication plant at the site are expected to be finalised in the next month.

O&R makes £6.5m bid

OWEN & ROBINSON, the retailer being turned round by Egon von Greyerz, the former Dixons finance director, announced its first deal yesterday, a £6.5 million agreed bid for Capitol Roma. Owen is also raising around £3.6 million through a placing at 9.5p a share and an open offer. Michael Abrams, chairman and managing director of Capitol, will become chief executive of the enlarged group. Owen shares rose 4p to 10p.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

SUMMER READING
Lie back and enjoy
12 pages of the
best holiday books

GINGER WHINE
TV's bête noire,
Chris Evans, wonders
why he makes so many
people see red

IRMA THE BRAVE
Britain prayed as a little
Bosnian girl fought for life.
Part two of her father's
harrowing story

**DO YOU HAVE
TO BE A
LEFT-HANDED
HOMOSEXUAL
TO BE A
GENIUS?**

For the answer, read Culture

THE SUNDAY TIMES IS THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Watchdogs act over Net deals

BY ROBERT MILLER

CITY watchdogs are to hold urgent talks with their international counterparts on how to protect investors who are expected to buy billions of pounds worth of long-term investments on the Internet within the next three years.

A report — *The Internet and Financial Services* — published yesterday by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation, and backed by the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, is to be used as a basis for regulators to formulate a common approach to patrolling the Internet. Andrew Winkel, SIB's chief executive, said watchdogs favoured firms flagging their authorisation which could then be checked on the SIB Central Register.

Tourist rates

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia \$	2.29	2.13
Austria Sch	20.90	19.35
Bulgaria Fr	0.55	0.51
Canada \$	2.40	2.29
Cyprus Cyp	0.883	0.816
Denmark Kr	11.35	10.53
Egypt £	9.01	8.31
France F	10.00	9.29
Germany DM	2.99	2.76
Greece Dr	474	437
Hong Kong \$	10.45	10.23
Iceland	127	107
Ireland P	1.14	1.06
Israel Shek	5.95	5.20
Italy Lira	2.95	2.74
Japan Yen	201.00	186.62
Malta	0.655	0.608
New Zealand \$	3.773	3.096
Norway Kr	2.54	2.32
Portugal Esc	12.48	11.11
Spain Pes	237.50	227.00
Sweden Kr	8.11	7.19
United Kingdom £	250.00	232.50
United States \$	12.44	12.41
United States \$	2.51	2.31
Turkey Lira	2498.00	2313.01
USA \$	1.743	1.609

Linda Hinchliffe and over 30,000 other employers already insist on the AAT for their accountancy training at technician level.

The AAT's Education and Training Scheme is available at more than 450 training centres in the UK. Many Employers also choose to train their staff in-house, with the AAT's support and approval.

AAT students look forward to a professional qualification, the chance to enjoy all the benefits, support and status of being a Member of the Association of Accounting Technicians (MAAT).

For proven quality and staff who can deliver, think AAT.

Lord Weinstock has found difficulty in shrugging off the habit of more than 30 years. Now chairman emeritus of GEC, he still heads purposefully for the office most days and makes his presence felt. His continuing involvement may not be exactly to George Simpson's liking. Although Simpson was Weinstock's chosen successor, to the extent that the cost-conscious peer was prepared to pay Lucas for allowing him an early escape from his contract, he could be forgiven if he now wishes that the chairman emeritus would learn the meaning of retirement.

Instead, Lord Weinstock still tends to carry on, as he always did, as if he owned the company, in which case, of course, he might be expected to appoint a new chairman for the company. George Simpson, understandably, does not see the chairmanship as being in Lord Weinstock's gift, any more than would those devotees of Cadburian correctness, who would be reaching for the smelling salts at such a suggestion.

The tussle over who should take over as chairman has forced the present incumbent, Lord Prior, to postpone his planned retirement from this autumn to next spring, but he is adamant that he will not be persuaded to delay beyond that.

The former Cabinet Minister has proved such a success as a travelling salesman for GEC that both Weinstock and Simpson are

said to be of the view that the ideal CV would include an important role in politics, but as to which politician, they have been in vigorous disagreement. Lord Weinstock has made it clear to friends that Michael Heseltine, the former President of the Board of Trade, would be his ideal candidate. Unfortunately, Simpson feels equally strongly against Heseltine being appointed.

The rest of the GEC board is said to be divided on the issue, but the problem may have been solved for them by Mr Heseltine's recent brief health scare and his determined wife Anne, who is apparently anxious to lower her husband's stress levels.

The name of Anthony Nelson, former Treasury and Industry Minister, is now being mentioned, but there seems little chance of a true compromise candidate being found. Simpson, understandably, wants to see his own man in the job. Winning that round would bring the added bonus of almost certainly persuading Lord Weinstock that he should spend more time with his horses and accept that his days at GEC have come to an end.

The three new non-executives appointed yesterday had the

aura of a new era dawning. They may provide Simpson with the support he needs to reshape GEC for the next century.

Next month he will lift the veil on the strategy he has been drawing up since first trying to get to grips with the multitude of subsidiaries and joint ventures that Lord Weinstock constructed. Inevitably, there must be disposals. It will be painful for the chairman emeritus to watch. He should avert his gaze.

Burton suits Jarvis

Burton Group shares have been full of excitement since unfounded rumours had chief executive John Hoerner departing, then staying, then being promoted to chairman of the fashion retailer.

The middle one is the right one, and ample reason why the stock should be strong. Since becoming

chief executive of the group in 1992, the imported American has rebuilt Burton from the ravages of the Sir Ralph Halpern era. He insists that he has no intention of quitting before the end of the century; he enjoys the job and he is not finished yet. It still rankles with him that he has not yet found the formula that will entice men into buying their clothes from Burton.

But while Hoerner will continue to run the group, there is to be change at the top. Sir John Hoskyns, who has been chairman since 1990, is ready to retire. Despite a spell as head of the Prime Minister's policy unit under Margaret Thatcher, Sir John does not look the septuagenarian he is. Nonetheless, he is to pack his bags. And those rumours which have been circulating around Burton now point to his most likely successor being Peter Jarvis, who has just bowed out from the chief executive's chair at Whitbread.

Jarvis has been on the Burton board for several years and would slip easily into the role. There had been suggestions that he might be destined to join the growing ranks of those top business people employed on government business, probably heading up the Low Pay Unit which is to be instrumental in setting the minimum wage.

Apparently, he could not agree the terms of reference with the politicos, so he is now likely to find himself instead having to deal with the consequences of their deliberations.

Like so many businesses, Burton can live with the principle of a minimum wage, it is the level at which it is set which is the issue. And there are fears that once set, it would be subject to pressure for annual increases that were generously above the rate of inflation. That is when the minimum wage really will begin to cost jobs.

Jarvis will, no doubt, be well placed to argue about the level

whether it is wise to plead libel. McDonald's is doubtless trying to be the best in its business. But it is imprisoned by the nature of its products and the stress on cheapness. Its reputation is vulnerable to instances of corner-cutting among suppliers, who are of necessity under even tougher commercial pressures on cost and specification from the world's biggest food service customer. McDonald's leads world markets for beef and hamburger flippers, so good and bad practices rub off on others.

This would have emerged more quietly and painlessly from an independent social and environmental audit, allowing the group to deal with genuine issues while refuting unfair charges. It might have learnt that price wars are a daft strategy for a faltering market leader whose cost efficiency could ultimately become a marketing disadvantage.

Generous Giordano

THERE are rumours that BG may soon part with a top executive. Philip Rogerson, the deputy chairman who dealt most directly with the MMC, may not see through his contract. Chairman Richard Giordano remains in situ, although he is guaranteed the more comfortable departure. Remember, the £450,000-a-year man is the one who had it written into his contract that retirement should bring continuing use of a car, chauffeur and office, anywhere of his choice.

Take the weight off, Lord Weinstock

COMMENTARY by our City Editor

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SPECULATION is growing that Philip Rogerson, deputy chairman of BG, one half of the former British Gas, is set to leave the company early (See Commentary, this page).

Mr Rogerson, who led BG's failed representations to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission over pricing plans for Transco, the pipelines business, is said to be looking at other opportunities. Ideally he wants a high-profile chairmanship. An insider said: "Everyone knows that there isn't a role for Philip any more. It is just a matter of time before he leaves."

Another source close to the company said he was not expected to complete the full term of his contract. Early departure is unlikely to involve severance pay. His contract was changed after he failed in his aspirations to become chief executive of BG when British Gas was demerged in February.

Mr Rogerson was a notable absentee on Wednesday when BG had to face the music at the publication of the Monop-

Securicor warning on phones

By ERIC REGULY

SECURICOR, the security group, has given warning that losses will continue at its mobile-phone services division because private customers are unreliable bill payers.

The division, Securicor Cellular Services, lost £3.9 million in the half to March 31, after a small profit previously. It sells mobile-phone connection contracts for Celnet, owned by Securicor and British Telecom.

Securicor's pre-tax profits before exceptional items and discontinued operations were £56.1 million (£57.7 million). After exceptions, including an £18 million write-down on Cellular Services, pre-tax profits were £19.1 million (£47.6 million). The 0.39p interim dividend is up 10 per cent.

Tempus, page 28

Expansion objective for Courts

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

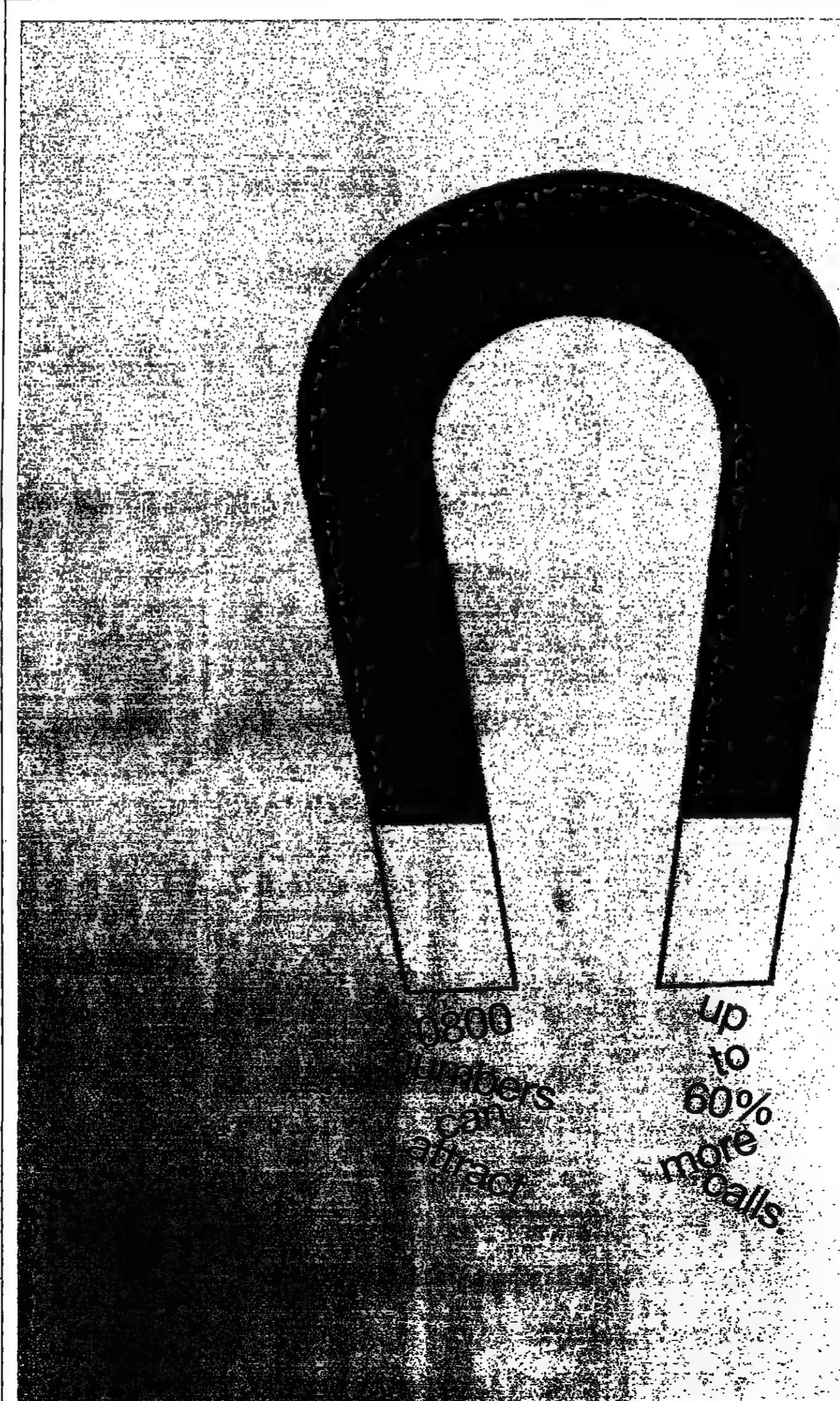
COURTS, the furniture retailer, reported sharply higher profits and said it is to step up its expansion programme.

In the year to March 31, pre-tax profit rose 30 per cent to £29.4 million. Like-for-like sales in the UK grew 23.6 per cent, powered by the introduction in late 1995 of interest-free credit.

The company is to open up to ten stores in Britain this year. Overseas, it is planning to open some 20 stores, with most in the Far East.

Like-for-like growth in the UK in the first few weeks of this year started in single figures but is now in double figures in Britain and overseas. The final dividend is being increased from 2.10p to 2.75p, payable on October 10. This makes a full-year 3.75p (3p).

You won't be moving companies for a while then.



A BT Freefone 0800 number is good for business.

It can help you become a national company because it can bring you customers from all over Britain.

It makes your company look even more professional by giving customers confidence that they're dealing with an

established company.

Plus it allows potential customers to call you for free, an incentive that should not be underestimated. Indeed 60% of people asked would prefer to call an 0800 number.*

And now, as if all this wasn't enough, we've now got a free minute offer for

new 0800 customers.

If you would like to find out more information about this offer please call BT on Freefone 0800 800 800.



Why not change the way we work?

THE HONDA ACCORD. Now available to business users on contract hire for just £199 a month including maintenance. Call 0800 466 466 for details.



* SOURCE: TELECULTURES FUTURES REPORT

STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Speculators eye Domecq after raid on GrandMet

WHILE LVMH was snapping up 11.6 per cent of Grand Metropolitan, the speculators were turning their attention to Allied Domecq.

Shares in the drinks group, which includes Ballantine's and Canadian Club whiskies, Beefeater Gin and Harvey's sherries, raced up 13½p to 428p in late trading as almost 13 million shares changed hands. Hopes are growing by the day that Allied may be snapped up by Seagrams, the north American drinks company in a move to counter the proposed merger of Guinness and GrandMet.

Both Seagrams and Allied have objected to the proposed £2.3 billion merger. At these levels, Allied is capitalised at £4.41 billion — well within the price range of a company as big as Seagrams.

LVMH's raid on GrandMet saw BZW pick up a total of 245.5 million shares at 630p. There was speculation that one parcel of 100 million shares may have belonged to NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships.

He has been appointed non-



David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

Brokers are split over prospects for BICC, 1p cheaper at 181p. Earlier this week, ABN Amro Hoare Govett recommended the shares after a meeting with the company.

Yesterday, Credit Lyonnais Laing took the opposite view.

Vodafone finished 21p easier at 298½p as a further 8.3 million shares were traded. The price has risen rapidly from the 250p level, reaching its target price of 300p.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

Brokers are split over prospects for BICC, 1p cheaper at 181p. Earlier this week, ABN Amro Hoare Govett recommended the shares after a meeting with the company.

Yesterday, Credit Lyonnais Laing took the opposite view.

Vodafone finished 21p easier at 298½p as a further 8.3 million shares were traded. The price has risen rapidly from the 250p level, reaching its target price of 300p.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

RJB Mining tumbled 15½p to 34p amid suggestions that

BZW, its own broker, has

downgraded its profits forecast for the current year.

Hopes that a deal may soon

be struck between the tobacco

companies and the complainants in the US courts lifted

BAT Industries 14p to 52p and Imperial Tobacco 1p to 40sp.

David Lloyd now heads up Snakesboard, unchanged at 1p.

burg has lifted its recommendation from a "hold" to "buy".

Bank of Scotland put on 7½p at 380½p amid suggestions it may be the next merger target for troubled NatWest Group, 11½p firmer at 751p.

David Lloyd, the former tennis professional, may be seen less at next week's Wimbeldon tennis championships. He has been appointed non-

executive chairman of strug-

ging Snakesboard Interna-

tional, unchanged at 1p and

has also agreed to subscribe £200,000 in a convertible loan facility.

We could hear this morning that Cater Allen, 11½p lighter at 545p, has agreed bid terms with Abbey National, 3p better at 832p.

</div

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Week that made triple whammy look certain

With just two weeks to go before the first Labour Budget since 1979, it is time to stop criticising the broad economic strategy adopted by the new Government and to look at what Gordon Brown may actually do, given the beliefs that, for better or worse, he holds. The Chancellor's Budget strategy will be the subject of the next two Economic Views: this week on the broad Budget judgment and next week on some of the detailed measures that could appear in Mr Brown.

The Chancellor's Budget judgment must surely have been affected by three big events this week: the collective insanity of the Tories, the National Audit Office report yesterday on the public finances and Wednesday's announcement of the strongest consumer spending figures since 1988.

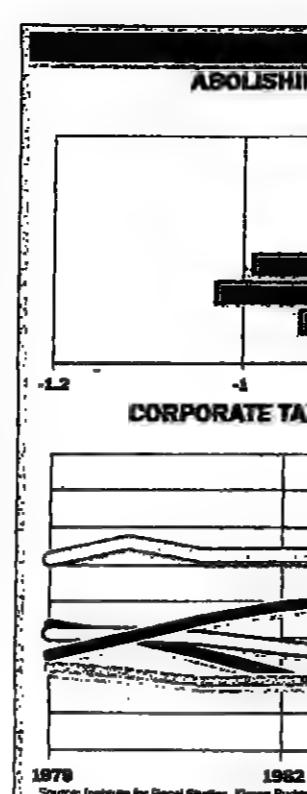
The Tory leadership contest has virtually eliminated the one serious threat to the re-election of a Labour government in five years' time: the possibility that an Opposition Leader or Shadow Chancellor with a proven economic track record would make political capital out of the downturn in the economy that now appears inevitable in 1998 or 1999. With the Tories deprived of convincing leaders and still absorbed by their fantasies about Europe, they are unlikely to mount an effective opposition for many years to come. This gives Gordon Brown a strong incentive to

introduce harsh measures as quickly as possible. By combining a tough Budget, with a £3 billion to £5 billion increase in taxes with the higher interest rates and further appreciation of sterling that now look inevitable, Mr Brown could hope to get any economic downturn out of the way as soon as possible and certainly before it is time to start worrying about re-election in 1999 and beyond.

The NAO report also points towards a tough Budget, albeit not as dramatically as Mr Brown had probably hoped. The Chancellor had hoped that the NAO would present a very bleak analysis of the public finance forecasts produced by Kenneth Clarke in his last Budget. This would give credence to Labour suspicions about Tory frauds and falsehoods and could have been used to justify a big increase in taxes, with the blame shifted onto Mr Clarke. This strategy seems to have failed.

Instead of discovering the "black holes" imagined by Mr Brown, Sir John Bourn, the Comptroller and Auditor-General, showed admirable professional detachment and refused to allow the NAO to be drawn into political games. Sir John offered no criticisms at all of Mr Clarke's figures, and merely confirmed that the somewhat more cautious assumptions chosen by Mr Brown were also "arrived at systematically and on the basis of available evidence".

Nevertheless, Mr Brown's more pessimistic view does



Sources: Institute for Fiscal Studies, Brown Budget 1997

have implications. With the official estimate of the British economy's potential growth rate downgraded from 2.5 per cent to 2.25 per cent, the Bank of England is almost obliged to raise interest rates more aggressively than it otherwise would have. Meanwhile, the £3 billion addition to the estimate of public borrowing, although well within the margin for error in such figures, creates

the presumption of a similar rise in the total burden of tax.

To make matters worse, the indications that £30 billion worth of building society windfalls are feeding straight into consumer spending suggest that none of the conventional policy options, such as modestly higher taxes or mildly higher interest rates, are likely to make any appreciable dent in the consumer boom. Since the

Chancellor, via the NAO report, has effectively rejected the option that I would have favoured — simply to accept that rapid growth, with the attendant inflationary risks, is needed to make inroads into long-term unemployment and the social problems of the underclass — there seems to be only one alternative. This is to encourage the Bank to keep raising interest rates and to accept that a much higher exchange rate is a price worth paying to subdue the economy and guarantee that inflation will remain under control.

Under this policy, "excessive" growth will eventually be subdued not by taking money directly out of the consumer's pocket, but by hitting the export and manufacturing sectors, which, in turn, would restrain wages and lay off workers,

eventually denting consumer confidence by these indirect means. Perhaps significantly, this is the policy favoured by Gavyn Davies, the chief economist of Goldman Sachs and close associate of Mr Brown, who has been widely canvassed as a candidate to be the next Governor of the Bank. As Mr Davies asked rhetorically at his recent presentation of the Institute for Fiscal Studies' *Green Budget*, "Why use the consumer sector, rather than the foreign sector, as a regulator of demand?"

Mr Davies believes that exporters and manufacturers are, if anything, better able than consumers to cope with sharp changes in their incomes. He also makes the point that the sort of tax increase required to have much impact on demand as present would be large as to be "politically infeasible". He calculates that a minimum £6 billion increase would be needed just to offset the building society windfalls, while a £9 billion consumer tax would be required to reduce the pressure for higher interest rates by one percentage point.

Assuming that Mr Brown is genuinely determined to "take no risks" with inflation (which I believe he is), substantially higher interest rates will have to be the centrepiece of his strategy, regardless of what he does in the Budget on tax. Mr Davies believes that interest rates will peak at around 7.5 per cent next year, while some other City economists, such as Kevin Gardner, of Morgan

Stanley, believe that base rates could go as high as 8 per cent. This sharp monetary tightening should ensure that sterling will go on rising and that manufacturing profits will continue falling until the point is eventually reached when demand, production and employment all turn sharply down. This could perhaps happen around the middle of next year.

In other words, the "triple whammy" of higher interest rates, a soaring pound and rising taxes, discussed repeatedly in these columns since the Bank was made independent, now looks almost inevitable. A mini-recession, involving at least a modest rise in unemployment starting late next year or early in 1999, therefore seems likely, and, indeed, is implied by yesterday's NAO report. Politically, of course, any such rise in the jobless figures would play into the hands of a revived Tory Opposition and could make life unexpectedly difficult for the Government in the second half of this Parliament.

Given this daunting outlook, it might seem rash for Mr Brown to alienate voters still further by raising their taxes. But the changes in Treasury assumptions outlined by the NAO — perhaps equivalent to the increase of £3.25 billion estimated for the public sector borrowing requirement this year — mean that some net tax increases will seem to be needed, at least in the long term. In addition, Mr Brown has an ambitious and broadly admirable agenda for removing some of the disincentives to work and reducing taxes at the lower end of the income scale. To make any progress, he will have to find billions of pounds of extra revenue somewhere else.

How can he do this? The short answer is by raising taxes on companies and on the incomes and wealth of the relatively rich. I shall discuss some possibilities in greater detail in next week's Economic View. But the three main contenders are clear. Abolishing mortgage interest relief would raise about £3 billion annually, would break no electoral promises, might help to cool the housing market and would distribute the burden fairly evenly across the classes (see top chart). Abolishing the tax credits on dividends received by pension funds, an option I have discussed in these columns since last autumn, would raise £5 billion, albeit only after a few years. The third main contender would be a tightening in the rules on inheritance, which could transform this into a serious money raiser. These and other options will be discussed here next week.

A cocktail that will be shaken and stirred

Alasdair Murray on the regulatory hurdles facing the GrandMet and Guinness merger



A powerful mix: brands that will be brought together under the proposed merger

The £23 billion merger between Guinness and Grand Metropolitan looked so simple when it was unveiled to an excited City audience a month ago. The two companies would use their complementary strengths to create the largest wine and spirits company in the world, mixing cost-savings and different market strengths in a convincing corporate cocktail.

But for all the careful stage-management of the initial announcements, the merger honeymoon period has quickly ended. Bernard Arnault, chairman of LVMH, Guinness's partner and an opponent of the merger, has dominated the stage in the last two weeks, using his position to stir up trouble. Seagram and Allied Domecq, meanwhile, have been quietly plotting how to torpedo the deal from the outside.

Seagram has already complained to the US regulatory authorities that the merger is anti-competitive and Allied is expected to make similar representations to the European Commission. Guinness and GrandMet have always acknowledged the regulatory process would never be straightforward. The merger is scheduled to take one year to complete, with negotiations embracing regulatory authorities in 180 countries. But it is in Europe and America, the companies' largest markets, that the fate of the merged company, GMG Brands, will be decided in the next four months.

The US Federal Trade Commission confirmed yesterday that its investigation into the

merger will go to a second stage. The competition directorate of the European Commission is expected to confirm today that it will require a closer look at the deal, under a process aptly known as the "serious doubt phase".

The two authorities operate under slightly different rules. The FTC adopts a more mechanistic approach, assessing whether the merger would enable the new company to profitably push through a 5 per cent or more price increase on its own, to decide if the deal is anti-competitive. The European authorities are bound to look at each deal individually and will decide on the issues as the investigation develops.

The crux for Guinness and GrandMet is how tightly the two authorities define the market in which the merged company will operate. In the broadest terms the merger cannot be considered anti-competitive: the two companies will only control around 5 per cent of the highly fragmented global spirits market despite becoming the largest single player in the world.

But the two regulatory authorities are almost certain to draw a much tighter definition. The strength of Guinness and GrandMet lies in niche markets such as gin, vodka and Scotch and it is in these areas GMG could run into big regulatory problems.

In America there is a vital difference between an investigation into the merged company's share of the whiskey market, which includes Bourbon and Canadian whiskies, and its undoubted dominance in Scotch. Seagram has, not surprisingly, already com-

plained that GMG would control around 70 per cent of the US Scotch whisky market and own the three top brands: Guinness's Dewars and Johnnie Walker and GrandMet's J&B. If the US regulators do concentrate on this market segment the merged company will have to give ground. GMG's first option would be to dispose of the two million cases a year of Scotch sold on to other brand owners, reducing its market share to around 50 per cent. If it was obliged to sell down further, three smaller brands — Crawfords, Ushers and Scoresby, which are worth around 15 per cent of the

market — would have to go. But GMG would probably opt to simply sell on the distribution rights to these brands in the US to maintain control of the brands in the rest of the world. NatWest estimates that a requirement to reorganise GMG's whisky portfolio in the US would hit profits by around £25 million.

In America the merged company may also run into problems over its vodka and gin portfolios. GrandMet has only just pushed through a 5 per cent price increase on Smirnoff, the market leader, the first vodka price rise in five years. But despite the tough market conditions, the US

regulators may be concerned that the merged company will be able to manipulate the pricing of the smaller Gordon's vodka brand to push custom towards Smirnoff. In the gin market, the merged company will still lag Seagram's 32 per cent total share, but the FTC could raise concerns about the narrower premium imported gin segment which includes GrandMet's Bombay Sapphire and Guinness's Tanqueray.

But there is little likelihood of the FTC vetoing the deal. Guinness and GrandMet have the advantage of operating in a market dominated by foreign players. The two major

regulators may be concerned that the merged company will be able to manipulate the pricing of the smaller Gordon's vodka brand to push custom towards Smirnoff. In the gin market, the merged company will still lag Seagram's 32 per cent total share, but the FTC could raise concerns about the narrower premium imported gin segment which includes GrandMet's Bombay Sapphire and Guinness's Tanqueray.

But there is little likelihood of the FTC vetoing the deal. Guinness and GrandMet have the advantage of operating in a market dominated by foreign players. The two major

property in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

It allegedly took just four weeks to put the deal together but the two companies will have at least another six months to sweat over whether the merger can clear all the regulatory and competitive hurdles.

The merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

In Europe terms, the merger hardly appears monopolistic, leaving GMG with a 37 per cent share of the Scotch market, 23 per cent of Vodka, 17 per cent of liqueurs and 14 per cent of gin.

But most observers believe the European authorities will want to look at smaller market segments in individual countries. If this is done, GMG could run into problems in the UK, Germany, Spain and Greece. In the UK the merged company would control a 32 per cent share of the total spirits market. In Spain, where J&B is the market leader, the two companies would have a total share of around 50 per cent of the whisky market, while in Germany it would control around 39 per cent.

Ironically, Allied Domecq, which stands to lose most from

the merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

It allegedly took just four weeks to put the deal together but the two companies will have at least another six months to sweat over whether the merger can clear all the regulatory and competitive hurdles.

The merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

In Europe terms, the merger hardly appears monopolistic, leaving GMG with a 37 per cent share of the Scotch market, 23 per cent of Vodka, 17 per cent of liqueurs and 14 per cent of gin.

But most observers believe the European authorities will want to look at smaller market segments in individual countries. If this is done, GMG could run into problems in the UK, Germany, Spain and Greece. In the UK the merged company would control a 32 per cent share of the total spirits market. In Spain, where J&B is the market leader, the two companies would have a total share of around 50 per cent of the whisky market, while in Germany it would control around 39 per cent.

Ironically, Allied Domecq, which stands to lose most from

the merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

It allegedly took just four weeks to put the deal together but the two companies will have at least another six months to sweat over whether the merger can clear all the regulatory and competitive hurdles.

The merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

In Europe terms, the merger hardly appears monopolistic, leaving GMG with a 37 per cent share of the Scotch market, 23 per cent of Vodka, 17 per cent of liqueurs and 14 per cent of gin.

But most observers believe the European authorities will want to look at smaller market segments in individual countries. If this is done, GMG could run into problems in the UK, Germany, Spain and Greece. In the UK the merged company would control a 32 per cent share of the total spirits market. In Spain, where J&B is the market leader, the two companies would have a total share of around 50 per cent of the whisky market, while in Germany it would control around 39 per cent.

Ironically, Allied Domecq, which stands to lose most from

the merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

It allegedly took just four weeks to put the deal together but the two companies will have at least another six months to sweat over whether the merger can clear all the regulatory and competitive hurdles.

The merger in Europe, has set a favourable precedent for GMG. The company's purchase of Pedro Domecq in Spain was waved through by the European competition authorities although it gave Allied 26 per cent market share in Spain — less than GMG would hold in any country except the UK. The European authorities also examined the overall whisky market, rather than the narrower Scotch market, when it

looked at that deal.

Guinness and GrandMet's real difficulty is not the threat of a total veto but that they maintain a coherent approach to both investigations. Inconsistencies would be seized upon by competitors.

In Europe terms, the merger hardly appears monopolistic, leaving GMG with a 37 per cent share of the Scotch market, 23 per cent of Vodka, 17 per cent of liqueurs and 14 per cent of gin.

But most observers believe the European authorities will want to look at smaller market segments in individual countries. If this is done, GMG could run into problems in the UK, Germany, Spain and Greece. In the UK the merged company would control a 32 per cent share of the total spirits market. In Spain, where J&B is the market leader, the two companies would have a total share of around 50 per cent of the whisky market, while in Germany it would control around 39 per cent.

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

BUSINESS NEWS 31

Triton seeks London listing

By CARL MORTISHED

TRITON, the US oil company, is to seek a listing for its shares in London. The \$1.8 billion exploration group, which is BP's partner in Colombia, wants to attract UK investors and Thomas Funk, Triton's chairman, believes the company's rapid expansion justifies a UK quote.

Triton has a 12 per cent interest in the Colombian Cusiana and Cupiagua oilfields operated by British Petroleum where its share of oil production, currently 18,000 barrels per day, is expected to rise to 50,000 bpd over the next six to nine months. The US oil explorer's most recent discovery has been five gasfields in the Gulf of Thailand with total reserves of nine trillion cubic feet. The fields lie offshore in territory disputed between Thailand and Malaysia but the two governments have agreed a joint development approach. Triton has a half share in a novel joint venture with Petronas, the Malaysian national oil company, which will give it a 25 per cent profit share.

The joint venture is negotiating a sales agreement with PTT, the Thai energy company, and Mr Funk said that Triton would also seek a listing on the Singapore stock exchange. The intention is to limit Triton's discoveries into the planned gas pipeline grid linking Thailand, Malaysia, Burma and Cambodia. Triton reported earnings of \$21.6 million in 1996 and will spend \$31 million this year, mainly on its developments in the Gulf of Thailand and Colombia.

Triton considered a London listing two years ago but Mr Funk believes the time is now right. "We are entering the next golden age of oil exploration."

Randgold's chiefs set for \$500,000 float profit

By CARL MORTISHED

THE directors of Randgold Resources have awarded themselves share options at a discount to the offer price in the South African mining group's flotation in London. Peter Flack, the chairman, and Mark Bristow, managing director, could each earn a paper profit of almost \$500,000 upon the listing of Randgold shares.

Randgold, which owns goldmines in Mali, Burkina Faso and Tanzania, is raising up to \$161 million in an international offering sponsored by HSBC Investment Bank. The pathfinder prospectus states that Mr Flack and Mr Bristow will each be granted options to subscribe for 100,000 shares. David Ashworth, the financial director, will be granted options over 50,000 shares.

Randgold's public offering will be priced at between \$18.40 and \$23 a share, but the prospectus says that the directors' options are exercisable at 80 per cent of the offer price in two tranches at the end of March 1998 and March 1999. If Randgold shares begin trading at the offer price, the three directors, collectively, will have made an instant paper profit of almost \$1.2 million.

The Randgold option scheme fails to comply with guidelines set by the Association of British Insurers. An ABI spokesman said that the proposed options failed on three counts. He said: "Our guidelines say that the exercise price should be set at the full market price at date of grant; they should not be exercisable in less than three years and their exercise should be subject to demanding performance conditions."

Mr Flack said that Randgold had chosen to list in London because it was the traditional home of African

mining finance. "As a serious long-term company, we thought we should list on a serious long-term stock exchange," he said.

The mining group's South African parent, Randgold & Exploration, will retain half the shares after the offering. The company has a resource base of 7.34 million ounces of gold and made a net pre-tax loss of \$15.7 million in the six months to March.

Randgold's most important asset, the Syama mine in Mali, is expected to come into profit in the three months to June after a sharp reduction in costs from \$351 per ounce of gold to \$305. The company is forecasting that Syama's operating costs will fall to \$250 per ounce by December 1998.

Mr Flack is sanguine about political risk in Mali, where elections were recently annulled because of chaos at the polls. He points to good relations with the government and the labour force. "Our workforce arrives to work on time and sober, and theft is almost non-existent," he said.



Jump start: Michael Symons, chief executive, and Mark Jackson, resources director

Warning hits MDIS price

By OLIVER AUGUST

SHARES in McDonnell Information Systems (MDIS) fell by 15 per cent yesterday after the troubled computer company issued a profit warning.

McDonnell said its 1996 results will show "very substantial losses", resulting from software development contracts entered into before last year. The profit warning was the company's fifth since it came to market in 1994.

A statement said: "The past operating performance of the

group, together with one-off items, have led to a requirement to rebuild the balance sheet and cash position. The board is addressing the issue as a matter of urgency."

The board has yet to publish results for the year to December 31. The results will carry certain exceptional charges and will make full provision for the software contracts. The statement said: "As a consequence, the 1997 results and beyond will more accurately

reflect the underlying performance of the group."

In 1995, pre-tax losses were £39.4 million. Analysts had expected similar losses for 1996.

A refinancing will be put to shareholders soon. Yesterday, their shares fell 6p, to 28p. A year ago they were worth 33p. They peaked at 264p in 1994.

MDIS is forming a joint venture with Fujitsu to take over MDIS's Chess software. MDIS will have 69.5 per cent. Fujitsu will put in \$25 million.

Acceleration at Helphire

HELPHIRE, the transport group, raised maiden pre-tax profits from £346,648 to £1 million in the year to March 31 on sales up from £2.6 million to £10 million.

Earnings per share rose from 4p to 8.7p. No dividend will be paid for the year although the company intends to adopt a progressive dividend policy reflecting the long-term earnings trend.

Helphire says the new financial year has started well, even though trading is traditionally quiet in the spring.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Airbus wins \$2bn Northwest order

AIRBUS, the European consortium, has sold 50 of its A319 aircraft to Northwest Airlines of America for \$2 billion, with an option for a further 100. Delivery of the 125-seat, twin-engine aircraft is scheduled for 1999 through to 2003. The average price for an A319 is \$40 million. Most other US airlines have exclusive supplier contracts with Boeing, Airbus's main rival. British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake in Airbus.

□ **TI Group**'s Dowty aerospace business yesterday announced two orders worth £170 million at the Paris air show. The two new clients are Lockheed Martin, of America, which ordered propellers for military aircraft, and Messier-Dowty, TI's joint venture with Snecma, of France, which ordered landing gear for commuter aircraft. TI had already won £100 million worth of orders earlier this week.

Gerrard Group stays flat

GERRARD GROUP, owner of the Greig Middleton private client stockbroking chain, announced flat operating results yesterday. Profits before tax and exceptional were £22.26 million in the year to March 31 (£22.22 million). However, one-off costs of £7.1 million relating to the purchase of King & Shaxson and the merger of the stockbroking and money market operations, helped to drive down post-exceptional profits to £17.75 million. A final dividend of 8p (15p), due on July 28, makes 16p (23p) for the year.

Symonds races ahead

SYMONDS, the electronic equipment group, raised pre-tax profits 86 per cent to £2.7 million in the year to March 31, on sales up from £14.2 million to £31 million. The total dividend rise from 1.5p to 1.8p, out of earnings down from 4.5p to 3.6p. Rod Ackrill, chairman, said: "Our process technology division is now poised to take advantage of world markets with a broader range of products and, once the precision engineering division is back on track, the future for the whole group looks set for continued growth."

Avocet loss deepens

AVOCET MINING incurred a loss of £2.7 million during the year to March 31 (£2.1 million loss). Losses per share reached 8.4p, up from the previous 8.2p. Avocet said, however, that it made £300,000 in the second half of the year as a result of opening the Penjom goldmine and the closing of a forward gold hedge in December. Jocelyn Waller, the chief executive, said: "We would anticipate an increase in gold production and profitability, together with a tighter market and better price for tungsten."

Ushers' expansion aim

USHERS of Trowbridge, the brewer, reported maiden first-half pre-tax profits of £3.6 million, down from the previous £4.9 million. Ushers will pay an interim dividend of 6.6p out of earnings per share of 4.3p, up from 3.5p on an adjusted basis. Profits before interest and tax slipped from £7.2 million to £7.1 million. Sales rose from £29.7 million to £32.4 million. Roger North, chief executive, said: "A substantial investment programme is under way in our existing estate and we hope to expand the portfolio by complementary acquisitions."

36 new suns turn Asia's First into Asia's Sunniest.

Witness the rebirth of Asia's first airline as 36 all-new state-of-the-art aircraft take to the skies. 36 new planes to bring you to more places in less time. 36 new bursts of warmth to brighten up your flight.

Philippine Airlines

Asia's Sunniest

PHILIPPINE AIRLINES © 1997 BY PHILIPPINE AIRLINES

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE														
	Set	Day	+/-	%		Set	Day	+/-	%		Set	Day	+/-	%
For 48 see Govt Units					Pacific Portfolio	163.95	205.87	+ 2.92	1.4%	Japan Small Cos	191.85	203.35	- 1.37	- 0.7%
ASA PROPERTY & LAW UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD	101305521201				Income & Growth	248.10	226.95	- 1.50	- 0.6%	Japan Small Cos	191.85	203.35	- 1.37	- 0.7%
General Inv	764.30	813.30	+ 49.00	6.2%	Private Equity Cos	165.95	165.95	- 0.00	0.0%	Master Fund	71.17	77.85	- 0.66	1.7%
UK Growth Inv	530.30	541.30	+ 11.00	2.1%	American Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Merger Fund	155.95	155.95	- 0.00	0.0%
High Inv	295.90	300.80	+ 10.90	3.6%	UK Smaller Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	European Stocks	193.95	193.70	- 0.25	1.3%
Hedge Inv	295.90	317.00	+ 15.10	4.9%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Global Fund	193.95	193.70	- 0.25	1.7%
Other Fund Inv	270.90	271.90	+ 0.90	0.4%	UK Smaller Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	UK Smaller Cos	193.95	193.70	- 0.25	1.7%
Other Inv	402.80	410.40	+ 7.60	1.9%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	134.40	140.40	+ 6.00	4.4%
Other Inv	424.30	434.40	+ 20.10	4.6%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	456.00	+ 4.80	1.0%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	Japan Growth	105.60	105.60	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74	- 0.4%	North America	132.40	132.40	- 0.00	0.0%
Small Inv	451.20	461.20	+ 10.00	2.2%	Int'l Cos	193.10	205.31	- 0.74</						

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

JULY 1997



■ THEATRE 1
The big musical is alive and well and doing excellent business, says Sir Cameron Mackintosh ...



■ THEATRE 2
... despite anything you may hear to the contrary from Lord Lloyd-Webber



■ THEATRE 3
The Wood Demon, an early play by Chekhov, is bravely and intelligently staged at the Playhouse



■ RADIO
Move over Helena Kennedy and Julia Neuberger, and let's hear some new voices on Radio 4

Sir Cameron Mackintosh thinks that Lord Lloyd-Webber has got it all wrong. Richard Morrison asks him why

My shows are fine, Andrew

The sumptuous Bedford Square drawing room is plump with its customary teddy bears and soft cushions. But the mood of its owner is far from cuddly. Sir Cameron Mackintosh is politely seething. And the cause of the great impatience is that other colossus of the modern mega-musical: Lord Lloyd-Webber.

Last week, Lloyd-Webber announced that he was in trouble. His Really Useful Group, he said, was expecting a £10 million loss this year. Mackintosh is sympathetic to Lloyd-Webber's plight. They are, he says, still good friends. "And of course," he adds as a friendly afterthought, "what Andrew didn't say was that without the £2 million rent he gets each year from me for *Les Mis* in the Palace Theatre, he would be in an even worse fix."

But what irks Mackintosh is Lloyd-Webber's contention that musical theatre generally is living "in parlous times", and that "the day of the big musical is ending". Mackintosh bluntly says that such a view "blurs" the distinction between Lloyd-Webber's own difficulties and the health of the musicals business as a whole.

What's more, Mackintosh is alarmed at how quickly Lloyd-Webber's doom-laden views have circulated round the world — and been accepted (gleefully in some quarters) as the truth. "Look at this," he says, thrusting a faxed clipping from an Australian newspaper at me. "That's a reprint of your paper's article about Andrew's remarks. Everything goes straight across the globe now."

One can understand Mackintosh's concerns. Rumours of failure in the theatre world can easily become self-fulfilling if the public loses confidence in the product. If one seemingly impregnable British showbiz empire can totter, so can another. And if Cameron Mackin-

tosh Inc disappears, so do thousands of theatre jobs in Britain and abroad. And so, perhaps, does the West End as we know it. Which is why Mackintosh treats the man from *The Times* to a dazzling recitation of his organisation's balance sheet and prospects.

"Our profits were up this year by 22 per cent, up last year by 25 per cent. Over the next three years I've got 15 shows opening round the world. I've just opened a touring *Les Mis* in Plymouth, and the advance for the first four dates alone is £7 million. The *Miss Saigon* that opened in Amsterdam last Christmas is booked a year in

Andrew is surrounded by people who don't fight him artistically

advance. It's going to run for four years. *Miss Saigon* in Stuttgart will run for ten years. I've got five productions of *Martin Guerre* lined up over the next two years ..."

He pauses for breath, and dramatic emphasis. "This is not an industry dying on its feet."

How, then, did its most successful composer get it so wrong? Mackintosh believes that "Andrew's huge problems stem from when he turned the Really Useful Group from a copyright-holding company into a producing operation. The productions of *Cats* and *Phantom* which are still hugely successful — and, in London, doing better this year than last — have actually always been run by my office. By contrast, the ones run by

the Really Useful Group have not done well."

Mackintosh gives an incredulous laugh. "I mean, they even managed to lose money on *Cats* in Asia. They have lost a huge amount on *Phantom* in Basle. These are incredible shows that have been successful round the world, and still they lost money! That's symptomatic of how appalling *Really Useful* was. It was run by people who didn't understand the theatre. In my office there is hardly anybody who hasn't worked on a stage at some time."

But what of Lloyd-Webber's own role? Is his creative spark what it was? "It isn't a coincidence," Mackintosh says, "that his four biggest hits were all done either with me (*Cats* and *Phantom*) or with Stigwood (*Evita* and *Superstar*). The musical theatre, more than any other art form, is a collaboration. An intelligent producer can make a writer write better. Andrew has a little knowledge of production, but he's not a producer. And he has surrounded himself with people who don't fight him artistically. That's been his biggest problem."

Would Mackintosh renew his creative partnership with Lloyd-Webber? "He did ask me to do a couple of his projects. But I wasn't drawn to the material, and I am someone who has to believe passionately in what I do."

It is, of course, the fervour of Mackintosh's commitment to musical theatre that underlies his criticism of Lloyd-Webber. He passionately believes that the big musical not only has a future, but that it can break new ground and still attract audiences worldwide. As he points out, he is one of the few commercial producers who is always trying to find new writing and put money into it." He supports Oxford professorships of theatre; he gives generous grants to young writers; he even pledged



Maestro of the song and dance: Cameron Mackintosh boasts a 22 per cent rise in profits — unlike certain other showbiz empires

£500,000 of his own money to top up the Arts Council's "Arts for Everyone" scheme.

But that commitment leads him to make another complaint. This time the target is theatre critics.

If Mackintosh was disappointed by their reviews of *Martin Guerre*, the Boublil/Schönberg musical into which he sank £3.5 million, he was furious at the panning of *The Fix*, a musical satire by two American unknowns which Mackintosh produced last month at the Donmar.

"Should never have seen the light of all this production investment," the *Daily Mail* sniffed. "Preposterously self-important," said *The Sunday Times*. They were typical verdicts.

Mackintosh feels badly let down.

He believes that he takes all the

risks in searching out and financing new talent, and then critics "who make their living from the theatre just as much as we do" are unsupportive.

He says the critics simply don't understand how the musical theatre works. "They are good at judging spoken plays; they recognise new talent there. But the moment that the musical goes off in a new direction, they get frightened. Perhaps they are insecure. The only musicals they sort of understand are old ones. Give them a *Crazy for You*, or even a pastiche like *City of Angels*, and they are comfortable. But they can't deal with changes in musical style.

Fine. But didn't Mackintosh spend several months reworking *Martin Guerre* in response to its critical mauling? "Of course I

recognised that it needed work. Our story was muddled; we had the right ingredients but we weren't making it clear. But virtually all classic operas were also rewritten radically after their first performances. And what is *Martin Guerre* but a bloody entertaining popular opera? It's up there with *The Force of Destiny*.

"Anyway, there is nothing shameful when the most complex undertaking in dramatic art — the making of a musical — takes time to evolve. The one good thing about the *Martin Guerre* rewrite was that it reminded me, the authors, the public and the critics that this business of ours is not a conveyor belt. It's an art form. And I'm in it for the art, not the money."

Too young to be an uncle

When the 28-year-old Chekhov submitted this play to the theatre potentates in St Petersburg, it was rejected as nicely written but over-literary. "You have too much scorn for the stage and you don't value dramatic form enough to compose a play," an influential actor told the already well-known short-story writer. "Composing plays is more difficult than composing fiction, and you're too spoilt by success to embark on a thorough study of the theatre."

If Richard Burbage had told the author of *Richard III* he was a smug sonneteer who should study Gorodius, the comments would not have been more devastating, and Chekhov was duly devastated. Indeed, things rapidly got worse. *The Wood Demon* failed in Moscow in 1889, and Chekhov put it away in disgust. Was he right or wrong to do so? The answer suggested by Anthony Clark's fine new production is both. Right, because Chekhov eventually retrieved the play from its

drawer and transmuted it into the much better *Uncle Vanya*. Wrong, because it is a lively, original work that would be much more often revived if that masterpiece did not exist.

Precursors are everywhere. Snooty, talentless Professor Serebryakov is already driving everyone mad with his endless complaints, and his pretty, aimless young wife, Yelena, is already turning heads and hearts, including those belonging to a Vanya-figure. But Zhora, as this character is called, manages to shoot himself rather than fail to shoot Serebryakov. And Astrov is Khrushchev, or the Wood Demon: a physician and an ecology freak, but not coarsened by life and drink, and this time as much in love with Sonya as she is with him.

Take away the suicide of a character who, as played by Brian Protheroe, is anyway sourer and meaner than

Vanya, and you are left with a more upbeat piece than any the dramatist wrote later. A shallower one, too, for the ending is jolly and romantic and the people have yet to acquire full Chekhovian richness. Pale, chiselled and intense, Cal Macaninch cannot prevent the *Wood Demon* coming across as a sub-Tolstoyan prig, whether he is parading his advanced views about forests or denouncing the pettiness of rural Russia or attacking himself for being, well, a bit of a prig.

Yet at least he ends up joining Abigail Crumenden's Yelena in declaring that it is vital to see people as they are, not as society or ideology claims them to be. That is the message ("trademarks and labels I consider to be prejudices") of the famous letter Chekhov wrote while he was composing *The Wood Demon*, and it was to be his artistic

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

I know that voice

JAMES BOYLE, the Controller of Radio 4, would be qualified to run an abattoir if all the sacred cows that he is alleged to be slaughtering actually came under the knife. But it is a curiosity of the medium, that while listeners will rise up in anger at the most hurtful that a cherished programme is deemed to have passed its sell-by date, little fuss is made about the voices that perpetually recur.

Take as the best example *Any Questions* (Friday, repeated Saturday). Last week one of the panelists was Helena Kennedy, the barrister. Tonight one of the panelists is Rabbi Julia Neuberger. My point being that a regular listener to *Any Questions*, asked to list ten non-politicians who might be expected to appear in a given week, would almost certainly put Kennedy and Neuberger among them.

Obviously both are women, both are intelligent and both have strong opinions on a

range of issues, therefore they are candidates for the panel. But it is also true that Kennedy and Neuberger are in the category known to journalists as rent-a-quote.

Broadcasting eats up vast quantities of verbiage, and there is a natural tendency for producers to take proven routes rather than explore the risky backwaters of opinion. Discussion programmes are by no means the only culprits. This week I listened to *Quote Unquote* (Radio 4, Tuesday), a highly entertaining panel game. One of the panelists was Stephen Fry. He was very good value, but that does not alter the fact that he is among a relatively small group of people whom BBC producers telephone so often they probably get a discount through BT's Family and Friends scheme. Radio should not ignore its proven big fish, but it should be doing more to attract different varieties.

Obviously both are women,

AN EXCLUSIVE PRIZE DRAW

21

**CARS TO BE WON
DRIVE AWAY IN A
BRAND NEW FORD**



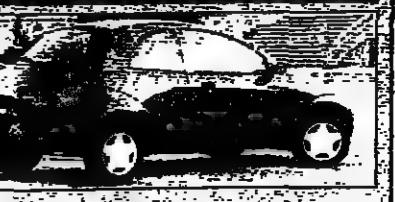
You could be one of 21 readers who will drive off in a new top-of-the-range Ford in the biggest and best car promotion ever. *The Times* prize draw celebrates 21 years of Ford as Britain's favourite car manufacturer by giving you the chance to win one of 21 cars. Included in the many prizes is the Escort Chicane, one of five covetable cars we are giving away in our Ford car competition. The Chicane is only £11,995 and has all the features that have made Escort Britain's bestselling car. Plus it has alloy wheels, tangle spoiler and metallic paint. Tomorrow, the final day of our car bonanza, we will bring you news of the Mondeo.

HOW TO ENTER You need 10 tokens from *The Times* or five from *The Sunday Times* and one from *The Sunday Times*, or two from *The Sunday Times*. All tokens must be differently numbered.

The third *Sunday Times* token appeared last Sunday. You can enter as many times as you wish but each entry must be on an official Ford prize draw entry form. Terms and conditions appeared in *The Times* on June 2. The final entry form will be published in *The Times* tomorrow. Full details of where to send your entries and tokens are printed on the entry forms.

FORD'S 21 YEARS

WHAT HAPPENED IN 1996



FORD announce the arrival of the Ka, a revolutionary design for the millennium. Madonna gave birth to a baby girl called Lourdes. Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

• Tim Henman

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop of Argyll and the Isles ran off with a girl friend.

• Secrets and Lies won the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

reached the quarter finals at Wimbledon.

• Bishop



■ POP 1

Her last album was a flop and the stadiums were empty. But now k.d. lang is fighting back



■ POP 2

Child stars like Hanson had better enjoy it while they can, because soon they will meet real life head-on

THE
POP
ARTS

■ POP 3

American double bill: Mark Eitzel delivers an inconsistent and infuriating set in north London ...



■ POP 4

... but the gig is saved by the brilliant presence of the fine R.E.M. guitarist Peter Buck

Lighting-up time for a non-smoker

After disappointing sales last time, singer-songwriter k.d. lang has a new album and renewed confidence. Alan Jackson met her

As we walk through Kensington Palace Gardens together, a small entourage of American tourists assembles in our wake. Finally, one seizes the moment and approaches my companion: "Excuse me, but are you k.d. lang?" "Yes ma'am, I am," comes the reply, and a ripple of pleasure spreads across the camera-toting group. Pleasantries are exchanged, pictures duly taken, and lang's enduring celebrity status is neatly underlined.

Comedienne and sitcom actress Ellen DeGeneres may have replaced her as America's most newly talked-about lesbian; her most recent album, 1995's sublime *All You Can Eat*, may have been a commercial under-achiever; but real stars endure, and lang, 35, is one such. The final proof? For our stroll through the park, she wears an attention-grabbing ensemble of pin-striped suit, lilac shirt with matching kerchief, and flip-flops.

She admits to having been stung by the rough ride given to that last album, particularly after the extravagant praise with which its 1992 predecessor, *Ingénue*, and its spin-off hit, *Constant Craving*, were garlanded. Self-written, cohesive of mood and impeccably sung, *All You Can Eat* was an intelligent delight, detailing lang's various reactions to the smorgasbord of opportunity afforded her by her growing media stature. This included the short-lived move from her native Canada to live in Entertainment Central, Los Angeles — "where the commercial corruption of the music business was exposed to me in a way it never would have been had I just continued making country records", she adds darkly.

All You Can Eat was too subtle for daytime radio, however, and lacked an obvious single track to kick-start sales. Eighteen months after its release, lang found herself still promoting it on stage, not in stadiums that were two thirds empty. "To this day, I can't have a clear perspective on it, because of all the stress, strain and disappointment attendant on the whole project," she says. "Ultimately though, it proved to be strangely beneficial. Imagine you were in a car smash and broke your nose ... but you never liked your nose

anyway and, although through circumstances you wouldn't have actively chosen, you end up with a better one. *All You Can Eat* was like that for me: a painful process, but one which proved transitional."

lang wincs at having to use the language of self-help, but then plunges on. "Ultimately, I healed myself — set myself straight on what happened to me and why. Let's be real: I don't want my fame to go away, because it keeps inertia at bay, and facilitates what I do. On the other hand, it's not something I

I don't want my fame to go away, because it keeps inertia at bay

want to get lost in either. So I have to find a balance between what is satisfying to me musically, and what is commercially marketable. I'm not certain that I've achieved it this time, but at least I've moved on from my initial position, which was that I wouldn't make another record for at least five years."

The "this time" she refers to is a new album, *Drag*, on which she interprets material written by others and based upon the various metaphors associated with smoking. For its cover lang, a non-indulger, has posed in classic, smoke-wreathed and male-suited Dietrich style, but without the essential cigarette.

"I hope the cumulative effect of the songs will be the same as if a museum had mounted a photographic essay on the subject, taking you from the glamour of old Hollywood through to close-ups of someone dying from lung cancer.

Smoking is both alluring and disgusting, and I wanted to represent that whole spectrum. The way in which its image has changed over the years fascinates me: in the 1930s and 1940s, it was a manifestation of sophistication and elitism; in the 1950s it signified rebellion; in the

1960s, you were talking marijuana and anarchy; and now only the bad guys smoke, never the heroes."

Unsurprisingly, *Drag* is impeccably, almost hypnotically sung, lang's starting point was a cover of her idol Peggy Lee's vintage hit, *Don't Smoke In Bed*. She then added Les Paul and Mary Ford's *Smoke Rings* ("Oh, it's so funny! The lyric goes 'Puff Puff Puff Puff Puff at your ears away'. Such denial, and so typical of the 1950s. Everything's just fine.") Reinterpretations of the Hollies' *The Air That I Breathe*, Stevie Miller's *The Joker* and Dionne Warwick's *The Valley of the Dolls* will also be familiar to listeners, but it is on two epic new songs, longer than six minutes each, that she is heard to very best effect — *My Old Addiction* by David Wilcox and *Ain't It Funny*, specially written by fellow Canadian Jane Siberry.

Hit singles may be a problem again. But certainly, the album reconfirms lang as one of the very finest interpretative singers in popular music. "I learn something about music every day," she shrugs, settling into a deck chair. "As my vocal teacher used to tell me when I was 19 years old, the process of singing is sexual, spiritual, mental and physical ... you can't separate it. So the more you experience, the more you can convey with your voice. I try to be like an empty vessel, letting my knowledge flow in and out freely."

Putting music and career aside temporarily, how is her life these days? lang breaks into a broad grin: "It's just fantastic! I'm in love with a girl called Leisha Hailey, we've been together for about a year; she's in a band called the Murmurs."

She admits to never having anticipated being emotionally involved with another musician, particularly one younger than herself (Hailey is ten years lang's junior).

"But you find love when and where you least expect it — and anyway, Leisha's more stable than me. I've even moved back again from Canada to LA to be with her. So there I am, right back in the heart of the beast. But hey, I've found that when you're happy, you just don't care."

• *Drag* will be released on June 30 by Warner Brothers



k.d. lang outside Kensington Palace: "The process of singing is sexual, spiritual, mental and physical"

Lessons in live

WE MAY have lost one writer of intelligent American rock in Jeff Buckley — but we still have Mark Eitzel. The two are united by more than being huge talents with troubled souls. They also serve the same intense, life-flashing-before-your-eyes muse.

Eitzel may be a survivor, but he is often unable to discipline his talent, and his best and worst traits were on display at the Union Chapel in north London. For 40 minutes he played an infuriatingly inconsistent set of favourites from his days with American Music Club. There were sublime moments, but much of it

CONCERT

was sloppy and Eitzel did himself no favours by indulging in a litany of obscenities, possibly because the venue was once a church. He shouldn't be allowed out in public in this mood, not because anyone was obviously offended, but because it made you think it was past his bedtime.

Then he brought on Peter Buck, the guitarist with R.E.M. who co-wrote and co-produced Eitzel's new album, *West*. It was immediately apparent why R.E.M. are one of the biggest bands in the world, and why Eitzel remains a cult figure. Buck exuded a control and focus that had previously been missing, and it rubbed off. Eitzel's singing became sharper and *Old Photographs*, *Free of Harm* and *Stunned and Frozen* from the new album introduced a much-needed polish. What Buck showed is that the songs can be given a more commercial gloss without adopting the showbiz veneer Eitzel wittily derides in one of his best songs, *Johnny Mathis' Peat*.

Eitzel's problem is that he confuses the sense of edge and danger which the best creative artists need with sheer self-indulgence. When he is rambling you desire to deliver a hefty kick to his backside. But, just as we thought he had lost the plot, he came back for a brilliant, free-ranging solo encore of *Inside Is Kind Of Empty* and *Cleopatra Jones*. In moments like that you can almost forgive him.

NIGEL WILLIAMSON

Family disagreements became spats between those embroiled in the day-to-day and those still famous enough to believe that everything would turn out all right, as long as they still had some fans. As a result, half the Osmond family is estranged from the other half.

So, when Zac Hanson becomes a real-estate manager, and Isaac tries to get a "credible" grunge band together, Taylor, Hanson's future solo star, won't have a clue what they're moaning about. Christmases to come are going to be awfully tricky in the Hanson household.

How do you tell three bright-eyed and happening boys that they will go from flavour of the month to sell-by date?

I have seen Hanson's future, and it isn't pretty

the 14-year-old, Uma Thurman-esque lead singer with the thrilling broken-edge to his warblings. Isaac is 16 and starting, already, to look slightly embarrassed at being on stage with his younger siblings when all his mates are getting love-bites and drunk on half a bottle of cider.

But not only are Hanson successful, they are cool. They became mighty matey with Beck when his father arranged the strings on their album, *Middle of Nowhere*, and his producers, the Duss Brothers, became theirs.

So why is this charmed life so poignant? Maybe it's the suspicion that Hanson's man-

ager, accountant, parents and record company executives daily measure these nippety goldmines, ever fearful of the day they graduate into adult-sized clothing. Maybe it's the knowledge that in two short years, we'll be watching footage of them from this week's *Top of the Pops*, and saying:

"They looked so young and happy then."

But it's probably because Hanson haven't a notion that their lives are more bizarre and surreal than an episode of *Twin Peaks* set on the Moon. Child stars believe that all these things are workaday, and just reward for being good and working hard. And they believe that if they

keep on being good and working hard, life will continue along its charmed path for ever. But life just doesn't work out like that.

Children make adults wince, because children have unquenchable optimism and fearlessness. They believe they're gods, indestructible telen-coated creatures who see death so far in the future that it doesn't exist. Children are pre-The Fall, as Albert Camus called it: that horribly eventful day when doubt, insecurity and a sense of your own powerlessness all suddenly invade the brain: usually just as you start revising for your A levels.

The poignancy that any

adult feels when looking at Hanson is knowing that, one day in the not-too-distant future, Zac, Taylor and Isaac will run into the iceberg of Real Life, and sink like stones.

Becoming a child star is an awful preparation for adult life, because being famous effectively keeps you childlike. No one wants to be the one to

upset the No 1 goldmine, and so life's bleaker moments are kept from them. Michael Jackson is one obvious example, the Osmonds are another.

Hanson's future can probably be predicted on the facts of the Osmonds' present. As the beloved ones' fame waned, real life started to intrude on the less well-known members.

1. HALF A RUDE DRAWING?
2. A PILE OF 100 FREE CDS?
3. A STONE-AGE SPARE WHEEL?

Every week on VH-1, win a pile of 100 classic CDs. Fix your eyes on Happy Hour, every night at 6pm.

VH-1

MUSIC THAT MEANS SOMETHING

Available on cable and satellite

THE AMERICAN CLASSICAL CHART HIT
THE CROUCH END FESTIVAL CHORUS
The City of Prague Philharmonic
CINEMA
CHORAL CLASSICS
An album for the most beautiful and dramatic scenes in the cinema
CINEMA
CHORAL CLASSICS

NO
LASTS
INGLE
W

2 CDS & LIMITED EDITION GATEFOLD 7". INCLUDES SIX BRAND NEW TRACKS SPREAD ACROSS ALL THREE FORMATS, AVAILABLE HERE FOR THE FIRST AND LAST TIME.

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997



■ POP 5

PAUL WELLER
Heavy Soul
(Island 524 277 £13.99)
PAUL WELLER'S trad-rock sound is a lot less fashionable now than it was even a couple of years ago, when he released *Stanley Road*. And you would think someone would have steered him away from a title that sounds as if it was dreamt up by Neil of the Young Ones. But *Heavy Soul* still bears the mark of a songwriter and performer with an unusually clear vision and a terse authority.

Now a pillar of the Establishment which he still, rather unwisely, purports to despise, Weller has matured into the Steve Winwood of the punk generation. A reclusive Englishman who combines a guilty passion for electric guitars with a devotional interest in R&B, he has left his punk roots so far behind that he has no qualms about dividing the title track of *Heavy Soul* into two separate segments, the second being a meandering instrumental passage complete with big guitar solo and haunting string section.

But while the hippy aesthetic may not be to everyone's taste, Weller still writes superb songs which he punches out with a lean, masculine economy. *Peacock Suit*, with its swift attack and surreal, Lennon-esque lyric, is a classic in the *Sunflower/Into Tomorrow* mould, while the acoustic roots-pop song *Driving Nowhere* and soulful ballad *I Should Have Been There to Inspire You* are typical of his winning way with a melody.

DAVID DEVANT & HIS SPIRIT WIFE
Work, Lovelife, Miscellaneous
(Rhythm King KIND CD) £10.99

WHAT with Jarvis Cocker, Babybird, Luke Haines of the Autors and all the others, does the world really need another misanthropic Englishman with a talent for dressing up wry social commentary in the guise of a good pop song?

Luckily, David Devant has plenty of native wit as a lyricist, and a keen ear for a tune with which to seduce his listeners, and *Work, Lovelife, Miscellaneous* is an entertaining collection of songs that should appeal to the cynic in all of us.

From *This is for Real*, the tale of a man who has murdered his two daughters' lovers and buried them under the



■ POP 6

RY COODER
teams up with a cast of veteran Cuban musicians to produce an album of exotic charm



■ POP 7

THE ARTS
Extremes of musical delicacy mix with extremes of violence on Spiritualized's third album



■ POP 8

GARY MOORE
puts the blues behind him and sets sail towards a bold new soundscape of drum and bass

POP ALBUMS: David Sinclair on Paul Weller's ability to pull rare bits out of old hats

If you've still got it, flaunt it



"A pillar of the Establishment which he still, rather unwisely, purports to despise, Paul Weller has matured into the Steve Winwood of the punk generation"

rockery, to *Parallel Universe*, an existential reverie which poses the vital question "Is there really only one Big Bang? Is there really only one Kool and the Gang?", Devant and His Spirit Wife maintain a mischievous momentum throughout this impressive debut.

SPiritualized
Ladies And Gentlemen We Are Floating In Space
(Dedicated DECD 034 £12.99)

IT IS said that computerised models of global weather patterns can establish a causal link between a butterfly bearing its wings in Shanghai and

an eventual tornado in Florida. Spiritualized's third album proceeds in much the same dramatic, yet apparently random, manner, while encompassing extremes of musical delicacy and violence, sometimes within the same song. The 16-minute odyssey *Cop Shoot Cop*, which features the lugubrious piano playing of Dr John, veers from a hazy shimmer one moment to a cataclysmic hailstorm of atomic free-jazz/industrial noise the next.

Like his contemporaries in the Verve and Primal Scream, singer and guitarist Jason Pierce writes songs that adhere to a linear logic, often repeating motifs like musical mantras while subtly moulding them into ever-changing shapes. On numbers such as *I Think I'm In Love and Stay With Me*, the effect is more

hypnotic than harmonic, but elsewhere he engages deeper emotions with some wonderfully poignant tunes.

RY COODER, IBRAHIM FERRER & OTHERS

Buena Vista Social Club
(World Circuit WCD050 £14.99)

WHEN a guitarist who has worked closely with Captain Beefheart, Johnny Cash and the young Rolling Stones declares his latest project to be "the best thing I was ever involved in", it suggests something special indeed. And *Buena Vista Social Club*, in which

Ry Cooder teams up with a cast of veteran Cuban musicians including singer Ibrahim Ferrer, guitarist Eliades Ochoa, composer and guitarist Compay Segundo and pianist Rubén González, is an album of exotic charm that enfolds you in a warm, passionate embrace.

Along with the obvious exuberance of the salsa, son and mambo rhythms, a key feature of Cuban popular music seems to be that among those who play it, advancing age and experience are regarded as an asset rather than a liability. Ferrer is 70, González

77 and Segundo a sprightly 89. No wonder Cooder, 50, felt a new spring in his step.

Having produced the album, and played a significant role in drawing it to the attention of an international audience, Cooder maintains a fairly discreet musical presence. His acoustic guitar blends in, for the most part, with a buoyant cocktail of voices, percussion, piano and trumpet on a selection of tracks ranging from the 1930s bolero *Dos Gardenias* to Segundo's recent, unusually mournful composition *Chan Chan*.

says, "I thought they were the best band in the world. People's perception of BBM was that Jack and Ginger tried to reform Cream and couldn't get Eric Clapton so they got me, which couldn't have been more wrong. It would have been a bit strange if it didn't sound a bit like Cream, considering Jack wrote most of their songs and Ginger was their drummer."

"After that I felt that I wanted to move in a more melodic direction again. I was drifting away from the blues, and if I'd done another blues album it wouldn't have been with my heart."



Gary Moore: "I love all kinds of music"

As Moore and musicians — "the best band I've ever had — prepare for European road work, devotees can rest assured that the set will include music from his blues and heavy rock days. But he will approach such metal mementoes with a new sense of economy. "As time has gone on I've felt less and less need to play too many notes," he says. "That's something you do when you're younger, you play too much and too fast. Now I speak when I have something to say, as it were."

And if you see someone in a record store devouring a full menu of new music, it might well be Moore, lapping up everything from Massive Attack via Fiona Apple to Oasis. "You've got great dance music, new bands. Rock is happening again," he beams.

● *Dark Days in Paradise* is released by Virgin

TOP 10 ALBUMS	
1 (—) OK Computer	Radiohead (Parlophone) £12.99
2 (10) Middle of Nowhere	Henson (Mercury) £12.99
3 (5) Always on my Mind	Elvis Presley (RCA) £12.99
4 (—) Destination Anywhere	Jon Bon Jovi (Mercury) £12.99
5 (1) Timeless	Sarah Brightman (Coconut) £12.99
6 (2) Before the Rain	Elton (EMI) £12.99
7 (3) Spice	Spice Girls (Virgin) £12.99
8 (7) The Best of Open Road	Bob Dylan (Columbia) £12.99
9 (4) Do It Yourself	Gary Barlow (RCA) £12.99
10 (6) Do It Yourself	Seafarers (Geffen) £12.99

© Figure in brackets denotes last week's position

Copyright CIN

CDs reviewed in *The Times* can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

Rapture captured

CHARLES LLOYD

Canto (ECM 1635 537 345-2)

THE re-emergence of Charles Lloyd's meditative, intensely personal tenor sound on ECM has been one of the jazz success stories of the 1990s. Although his overall approach, a self-searching, brooding style aspiring to what he terms "weightless-

ness", is not to everyone's taste, there is no disputing its sincerity or its suitability for the label, the unofficial motto of which is: "The most beautiful sound next to silence".

Pianist Bob Stenson, who has accompanied Lloyd on all five of his ECM outings, brings just the right touch of thoughtful delicacy to the proceedings, and bassist Anders Jormin and drummer Billy Hart are impeccable throughout. There is the odd longueur, but when Lloyd's rapturous music gels there are few lovelier sounds in jazz.

MUHAL RICHARD ABRAMS/MARTY EHRICH

The Open Air Meeting (New World Records 80512-2)

THE Brooklyn Museum was the site of the meeting in question, in August 1996, and it produced challenging, but consistently exciting, duo music from two of America's top performers of cutting-edge jazz piano/composer Muhal Richard Abrams and saxophonist/clarinetist Marty Ehrlich. Pure delight, from the gutsy opener to the blues encore.

CHRIS PARKER

UK'S BEST INDEPENDENT RETAILER 93 94 95 96

Andy's Records

Senor Blues

SENOR BLUES
is the brilliant new album by the legendary

TAJ MAHAL.

See him at his only UK date this year at

London's Shepherds Bush Empire, 17 July 1997

Hear it now at all our stores

LOOK IN STORE FOR ANDY'S RECOMMENDED RECORDINGS ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE BARNSLEY BIRKINBURY BEDFORD BEVERLY BLACKBURN BURY ST EDMUNDS BOLTON CAMBRIDGE CANNON CHELMSFORD COLEBROOK DONCASTER GRIMSBY HALIFAX HEREFORD NOW OPEN HULL IPSWICH KINGSLYNN LANCASTER LICHFIELD LINCOLN LOUGHBOROUGH LOWESTOFT MANSFIELD NORWICH OLDHAM PETERBOROUGH PRESTON ROCHDALE SCARBOROUGH SHEFFIELD SOUTHPORT WAKEFIELD WARRINGTON WORCESTER

HMV Classical Selection

JUNE

JOHN RUTTER Requiem Polyphony Bournemouth Symphony Stephen Layton (Hyperion CD65947) CD £11.99	STANFORD Stabat Mater Te Deum Bible Songs (Chandos 5546) Released 23rd June CD £12.99
ANNE SOFIE VON OTTER La Bonne Chanson (Deutsche Grammophon 447 752-2) CD £12.99	PHILIP PICKETT Shakespeare's Music (Philips CD 446 687-2) CD £12.99
DANIELE GATTI Respighi Feste Romane Pini Di Roma (Concert Classics 75005 51292-2) CD £12.99	PUCCINI Madame Butterfly Sombrero Highlights (Sony Classical SK61972) CD £13.99

HMV



THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

Queen's Bench Division

Interim housing policy lawful

Regina v Camden London Borough Council, Ex parte Mohamed
 Before Mr Justice Latham
 [Judgment May 23]

A policy formulated pursuant to section 188(3) of the Housing Act 1996, which provided that no interim accommodation was to be made available to a person pending a review of a refusal of his application for housing assistance unless there were exceptional reasons.

Mr Justice Latham so held in the Queen's Bench Division, when, *inter alia*, dismissing an application by Mrs Angela Mohamed for a declaration that the respondent's policy was unlawful because it purported to restrict the exercise of that discretion to those cases where exceptional reasons could be shown.

His Lordship agreed with the applicant that there was nothing in the Act which indicated that there should be a restrictive approach to the exercise of the discretionary power; it did not suggest prejudice in favour of or against the granting of interim relief.

However, looking at the structure of the Act, it followed from the unfeared right of an applicant to request a review that the Act clearly did not envisage that the discretionary power would be exercised as a matter of course in favour of such a person.

Mr Stephen Kneller for the

applicant: Mr Christopher Baker for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE LATHAM set out sections 188(3), 202 and 204 of the Housing Act 1996, and observed that the discretion in section 188(3) to grant interim accommodation pending a review or appeal was a wide discretion.

The applicant had submitted that the respondent's policy was unlawful because it purported to restrict the exercise of that discretion to those cases where exceptional reasons could be shown.

His Lordship referred to the speech of Lord Justice in *Din v Woodward London Borough Council* ([1983] 1 AC 657, 674) and said that it was the function of the local authority which was exercising the discretion to hold the balance between the homeless.

His Lordship said that the phrase "exceptional reasons" could properly be understood to reflect that reality, although he agreed with the applicant that it did appear to determine a prejudice against the exercise of the discretion.

His Lordship identified the underlying requirement of the exercise of the discretion to be

to prevent a person or body suing in defamation required great caution.

But in his Lordship's judgment the principle should extend to political parties. The public interest in freedom of speech was sufficiently strong and should clearly not be fettered.

His Lordship noted that individual candidates could still bring an action in defamation, including when they could be identified in material published about their party. Accordingly the second plaintiff's claim would be struck out.

Solicitors: Peter Carter-Rock & Partners; David Price & Co.

Criticise those who held office must always be open to criticism.

To prevent a person or body suing in defamation required great caution.

But in his Lordship's judgment the principle should extend to political parties. The public interest in freedom of speech was sufficiently strong and should clearly not be fettered.

His Lordship noted that individual candidates could still bring an action in defamation, including when they could be identified in material published about their party. Accordingly the second plaintiff's claim would be struck out.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners; Ms Amanda Kelly, Camden.

It seemed to his Lordship that the proper approach in determining the validity of the policy was to look at the situation as it existed on the ground in order to put the policy into its proper context of fact as well as law. His Lordship had heard evidence which showed that there were many requests for review of which very few were found to be meritorious.

His Lordship referred to the speech of Lord Justice in *Din v Woodward London Borough Council* ([1983] 1 AC 657, 674) and said that it was the function of the local authority which was exercising the discretion to hold the balance between the homeless.

His Lordship said that the phrase "exceptional reasons" could properly be understood to reflect that reality, although he agreed with the applicant that it did appear to determine a prejudice against the exercise of the discretion.

His Lordship identified the underlying requirement of the exercise of the discretion to be

to prevent a person or body suing in defamation required great caution.

But in his Lordship's judgment the principle should extend to political parties. The public interest in freedom of speech was sufficiently strong and should clearly not be fettered.

His Lordship noted that individual candidates could still bring an action in defamation, including when they could be identified in material published about their party. Accordingly the second plaintiff's claim would be struck out.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners; Ms Amanda Kelly, Camden.

keep on the one hand well in mind the objective of fairness to those who were homeless in circumstances where the local housing authority in its first decision had decided there was no duty on it to assess the particular application, and on the other hand to give proper consideration to the possibility that the applicant might be right and that to deprive him of accommodation could result in denying him his entitlement.

In carrying out that balancing exercise, circumstances which always required consideration were:

1. The merits of the case itself and the extent to which it could properly be said that the decision was one which was either contrary to the merits of the case or was one which required a fine balance of judgment which could go either way;

2. Whether there was any new material put before the authority which could have a real effect upon the decision under review; and

3. The personal circumstances of the applicant and the consequences of an adverse decision on some other, other considerations which might be relevant.

Provided all those considerations were in fact borne in mind and properly given effect to by the authority, His Lordship found that the phrase "exceptional reasons" a perfectly rational way of describing the approach to be adopted.

His Lordship also wished to address the question of the court's approach to cases where insufficient reasons for a decision had been given by an authority in the context of the new procedures under the Act: the court would be slow to intervene simply to assert that that was a deficiency capable of being remedied, and would only interfere where it was clear that the process of review was rendered capable of being described as unfair as a result, in particular as a result of a failure by the authority to put right such a deficiency in a letter.

Solicitors: Bindman & Partners; Ms Amanda Kelly, Camden.

Section 478 of the 1970 Act provides: "For ... preventing the avoidance by individuals ordinarily resident in the United Kingdom of liability to income tax by means of transfer of assets by virtue ... whereof, either alone or in conjunction with associated operations, income becomes payable to persons resident ... out of the United Kingdom, it is hereby enacted..."

[Speeches June 12] Where a taxpayer made pre-ordained series of transactions, or a composite transaction, with or without a legitimate commercial or business end, and inserted therein steps which had no purpose other than the avoidance of tax, those steps had to be disregarded and the end result looked at.

Such transactions were liable to tax falling within section 478 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970 and the principle of *W. T. Ramsay Ltd v Inland Revenue Commissioners* ([1982] AC 300) and *Furniss v Dawson* ([1984] AC 476).

The House of Lords so held allowing an appeal by the Inland Revenue Commissioners from a decision dated September 13, 1994, of the Court of Appeal in Northern Ireland [Sir Brian Hutton, Lord Chief Justice, Lord Justice Kelly and Lord Justice Carswell] ([1994] STC 888) whereby the court allowed, in part, an appeal by the Crown from a decision of the Commissioners for Special Purposes (Mr Brian O'Brien), who stand the case at the request of the Crown and the taxpayer, John Brendan McGuigan.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The taxpayer's appeal against the assessment for 1970-80 was allowed by the special commissioner who had decided, inter alia, that the transactions were not a sham and that, since the notice of assessment stated that the tax liability arose under section 478, he could not uphold it under section 470.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The taxpayer's appeal against the assessment for 1970-80 was allowed by the special commissioner who had decided, inter alia, that the transactions were not a sham and that, since the notice of assessment stated that the tax liability arose under section 478, he could not uphold it under section 470.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as having been properly made under section 478 and that (ii) the court could remit the case to the commissioner with a direction to treat the assessment as having been made under section 470 of the 1970 Act.

The court had decided, inter alia, that (i) Lord Justice Kelly dissenting) the commissioner could not uphold the assessment on any basis other than as

TO ADVERTISE CALL
0171 680 6800

DISTANCE LEARNING

FAX:
0171 782 7899

Good Distance Learning MBAs
are hard to find.
Call for a guide to the best.



0191 487 1422.

The Durham MBA Distance Learning Programme is one of Britain's most highly regarded internationally recognised MBA courses and is one of three AMBA accredited study options. Including Full-Time and Part-Time, if you would like to develop into one of the world's best managers apply for your brochure today.

University Business School, Adams 425, Hill Lane, Durham DH1 3ZC
Telephone: +44 191 372 3895; e-mail: MBS.DU@dur.ac.uk

DL JUN97

An Open Learning MBA of distinction from Scotland's top Business School

Research Rating: 5* Teaching Quality: "Excellent"

We are currently accepting applications for our next intake for all our MBA routes. If the Challenge of an MBA appeals to you - Contact us free from anywhere in the UK on:

0800 66 1966

If outside UK Tel: +44(0)141-553 6049

OPEN LEARNING

Flexible completion time (2-5 years)
starting in June and October

MIXED MODE

Approximately 2½ years starting in October and April

PART TIME

Two evenings per week
for three years starting in October

FULL TIME

12 months starting in October

Internet: <http://www.strath.ac.uk/Departments/SCBS>



The
Strathclyde

Master of
Business

Administration



WANTED Sharp-eyed People

After a Chapterhouse training course we hope you will keep in touch.

Send up to £12.00 in loose leaf books, proofreading and editing books. Don't just tell me what we want for it... tell with our customers say.

Dear Chapterhouse
I started to do the course whilst at work. Since after I received my last set of notes I became employed with a publisher and one of my main duties is proofreading our publications (a job I gained because of my interest in your course).

Dear Chapterhouse
At long last I am sending you the Closing Assessment to be marked. I really enjoyed doing the course and now work 3 days a week at a Publishing Co. on a freelance basis. Thank you very much for all your help and expertise.

CG (SERT)

Dear Chapterhouse

Thank you very much for an interesting, if somewhat strenuous, copy editing course. I have already managed to get a full-time position as a Copy Editor with Oxford Publishing, so I think it has definitely been worth the effort.

IN (Oxford)

Dear Chapterhouse

From only £29.00 for a full professional course.

Our Professional Training Department has many courses from

Places: (01392) 499488 Fax: (01392) 498008

CHAPTERHOUSE

6 Years Successful Training

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON EXTERNAL PROGRAMME

Widening
access to
higher
education

Study in your own
time and at your own
pace, for a
University of London
diploma or degree,
without coming
to London.

Over 40 undergraduate &
postgraduate qualifications
are available.

Write, fax or phone: First Enquiries (97/IS/06) Room
3, Senate House, Malet Street, London WC1E 7HU.
Tel: 0171 636 8000 extn. 3130 or Fax: 0171 636 5894.
<http://www.lon.ac.uk/external>

The financial management
qualification for non-financial
professionals

- UNDERSTAND the principles of finance
- LEARN to analyse financial information
- MASTER budgeting, investment appraisals, return on investment and many other practical techniques
- ATTAIN an internationally recognised post-graduate qualification from a world leader in financial training
- STUDY at your own pace from home or work with ACCA's highly effective Open Learning Programme and study support programmes

For an information pack contact:
The Certified Diploma Adviser Ref. The Times:
ACCA, 29 Lincoln Inn Fields, London WC2A 3EE.
Tel: 0171 394 5819/18 Fax: 0171 394 5858
E-mail: diplomadept@accaco.uk <http://www.accaco.uk>

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMMES

Centre for International
Education in Economics



- Postgraduate Diploma in Economic Principles
- MSc in Financial Economics
- MSc in Financial Management
- MSc in Development Finance

If you are interested in a postgraduate qualification BUT can't spare time away from work or home, our award winning programmes offer you:

- world-class education without interruption to your career
- specially designed, fully comprehensive materials
- high quality tutorial support by fax/phone/email
- registration anywhere in the world for up to 5 years

For further information about our programmes, contact Richard Arnold on +44 171 323 6342

For a brochure, write to June Ryde, CIEE, SOAS,
University of London, Thornhaugh Street, London WC1H OGX

Tel: +44 171 323 6366 (24 hours) Fax: +44 171 637 7076

Email: CIEEUOL@SOAS.ac.uk Quote reference T/87

Web page: <http://www.soas.ac.uk/Centres/CIEE/>

Surname _____	First name _____	Mr/Ms/Other _____
Address _____		
Country _____		
Postcode _____		

BUSINESS COURSES

CARTOONS

Laugh all the way to the bank. Your cartooning or illustration skills will make money. Study from home for a new career or a profitable second income.

0800 371 500

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

TEACHER TRAINING

by Distance Learning

0800 371 500

NOTTINGHAM TRENT UNIVERSITY

Law Degree
By Distance Learning

0800 371 500

Nottingham Law School, part of the Nottingham Trent University, offers you the opportunity to obtain a Law Degree by Distance Learning. You can study with us wherever you live and lack of formal educational qualifications need not preclude admission. We hold four residential weekends each year in Nottingham. The degree takes four years and is fully recognised for all professional purposes.

The fee of £1,500 per annum may be paid by credit card or in instalments. It includes all tuition fees, residential weekends and professionally produced learning materials tailored exactly to your learning needs.

If you would like further details, please contact

Aanette Martin, The Faculty of Law, Nottingham

Law School, The Nottingham Trent University,

Nottingham NG1 4BU. Tel: (0115) 9486557.

0800 371 500

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

MBA

LLM

MSc

Part time, Full time,
Open Access;

Distance learning

for graduates in Law, taught & by research

0800 371 500

COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN LEARNING

DEGREES IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION FOR WORKING MANAGERS

BSc(Hons) in Business
Administration by Distance
Learning

A new opportunity to remain in employment
while studying for a Honors Degree

specifically on contemporary management
issues.

The Brunel MBA

Multi-model full-time, part-time, distance
learning with the option to switch mode if
personal circumstances alter.

A flexible, generic management programme
incorporating specialist modules in Information
Management and Managing for the Future.

For further information contact:

Mrs Jackie Strange
Dept. of Management Studies

Brunel University, Uxbridge, UB8 5PH

Telephone: (+44)(0) 1895 203159

Fax: (+44)(0) 1895 283149

Promoting Excellence in Teaching and Research,
Committed to Equality of Opportunity.

DEGREES IN BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION FOR
WORKING MANAGERS

BSc(Hons) in Business
Administration by Distance
Learning

A new opportunity to remain in employment
while studying for a Honors Degree

specifically on contemporary management
issues.

The Brunel MBA

Multi-modal full-time, part-time, distance
learning with the option to switch mode if
personal circumstances alter.

A flexible, generic management programme
incorporating specialist modules in Information
Management and Managing for the Future.

For further information contact:

Mrs Jackie Strange
Dept. of Management Studies

Brunel University, Uxbridge, UB8 5PH

Telephone: (+44)(0) 1895 203159

Fax: (+44)(0) 1895 283149

Promoting Excellence in Teaching and Research,
Committed to Equality of Opportunity.

DEGREES IN BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION FOR
WORKING MANAGERS

BSc(Hons) in Business
Administration by Distance
Learning

A new opportunity to remain in employment
while studying for a Honors Degree

specifically on contemporary management
issues.

The Brunel MBA

Multi-modal full-time, part-time, distance
learning with the option to switch mode if
personal circumstances alter.

A flexible, generic management programme
incorporating specialist modules in Information
Management and Managing for the Future.

For further information contact:

Mrs Jackie Strange
Dept. of Management Studies

Brunel University, Uxbridge, UB8 5PH

Telephone: (+44)(0) 1895 203159

Fax: (+44)(0) 1895 283149

Promoting Excellence in Teaching and Research,
Committed to Equality of Opportunity.

DEGREES IN BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION FOR
WORKING MANAGERS

BSc(Hons) in Business
Administration by Distance
Learning

A new opportunity to remain in employment
while studying for a Honors Degree

specifically on contemporary management
issues.

The Brunel MBA

Multi-modal full-time, part-time, distance
learning with the option to switch mode if
personal circumstances alter.

A flexible, generic management programme
incorporating specialist modules in Information
Management and Managing for the Future.

For further information contact:

Mrs Jackie Strange
Dept. of Management Studies

Brunel University, Uxbridge, UB8 5PH

Telephone: (+44)(0) 1895 203159

Fax: (+44)(0) 1895 283149

Promoting Excellence in Teaching and Research,
Committed to Equality of Opportunity.

DEGREES IN BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION FOR
WORKING MANAGERS

BSc(Hons) in Business
Administration by Distance
Learning

A new opportunity to remain in employment
while studying for a Honors Degree

specifically on contemporary management
issues.

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

0171 782 1111

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON EXTERNAL PROGRAMME

Study in your own time and at your own pace, for a University of London diploma or degree without coming to London. Over 40 undergraduate and postgraduate qualifications are available.

The financial management qualification for non-financial professionals

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON LEARNING PROGRAMMES for International Business Economics

DEVONSHIRE SCHOOLS PREPARATION

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

39

EDUCATION

Gill Bowker looks at the problems faced by families forced to relocate with no prospect of a school place for their children next term

The end of another academic year approaches. GCSE and A-level examinations are almost completed and most families are looking forward to the holiday. However, there are some who can look forward only with anxiety to the next few weeks. These are the families who are unable to secure school places for their children for the new academic year.

Many of those so affected are families in which the main breadwinner is required by his or her employer to relocate to another part of the country. Despite the high profile of educational issues during the past few months, nothing has been done to resolve some of these problems, which cause distress to families.

Take some of the situations faced by families who have to move. There are those with children who are moving from primary to secondary school.

Applications for secondary places had to be submitted, in most areas, by last November. Late applicants are often not considered until the allocation of places has been made to those applying in time. For those families already living in the area such a restriction is not unreasonable, but what of the family who discover

only after the due date that they have to move to a different area?

Most authorities and grant-maintained schools offer their places as early as March, and because of existing legislation they have to offer all the places available. The result is that people moving in after the places have been allocated find themselves either having to go to appeal or sending their children to distant schools, often several miles away. At 11, maybe travelling several miles to school is a minor problem, but for the relocated child who has already faced the trauma of leaving close friends and a supportive social group, the greatest need is to build a new social group in the new location. Sending that child out of area to school works against them settling quickly.

This age group is not the only one facing such problems. The majority of families relocating are facing similar problems whatever age their children may be. Those with children starting

school for the first time who have inadvertently missed the application period can find themselves having to take a five-year-old on a 40-minute walk each morning and evening.

A small number of authorities continue to offer places at the local school to any child moving into the area, but for how much longer?

The national curriculum, league tables, Ofsted inspections and the opportunity to become grant maintained have all been introduced in an attempt to raise standards and extend parental choice. But have these measures really improved our children's education or given the majority of parents more choice? Surely not.

The introduction of grant-maintained status has made it almost impossible in many areas for families relocating to get school places. Families already resident may apply to a school that is not their "local" one and, provided there is room, they must be offered a place. Once a

school has its full quota of children, families moving in, for whom it would be the local school, have to be turned away. They can appeal but this does not guarantee that they will get a place.

Consider, for example, a family relocating from the North of England to a county in the South. They have three children of school age, one in reception, one in year four and one in year six. The youngest child started school in September at the beginning of his "rising five" year. In order to allow the oldest child to make friends at primary school before moving to secondary school, they decide to move as quickly as possible.

Imagine their frustration when they find that not only will the youngest child have to wait until next September to go to school (despite the fact that he is already attending school), but all places at the local secondary school have been allocated for that

year. As if this is not enough, they discover that the nearest primary school is oversubscribed in year four and they must therefore appeal for a place or send this child to a school farther away. What a dilemma.

Or take the family moving from Scotland to Hertfordshire. Their little girl, who is four, has been very upset at leaving friends and family and the parents are anxious that she should attend the local school. She has a place at the nursery school attached to the primary school and has begun to build new relationships with children due to move into reception at the same time. However, because her application for a school place was late, because of the timing of the move and the fact that application cannot be made without an address, she is too low on the list and has been offered a place at a school on the other side of town.

Local authorities work hard to sort out the problems, but measures need to be taken at a higher level to relieve the current situation. All children deserve similar opportunities in education.

At present, local authorities that still manage to guarantee places are facing overcrowding, larger classes, shortages of equipment and all the attendant difficulties that arise — insufficient toilets, dining facilities and playground space. Authorities that do not guarantee places are faced with a huge rise in the number of appeals and tremendous strain for their administrative staff, who have to attend to the angry parents who cannot get their children into school.

It would be easy to dismiss the experience of the families quoted above as isolated incidents, but in reality the situations faced by these families are occurring with alarming frequency. For many families, the stress is relieved by having someone to guide them through the process, or to advise on areas where they are likely to face fewer problems.

But what of the families who receive no help? League tables, Ofsted reports, promises of higher standards and smaller classes, however beneficial for the static, have little value when it is nigh on impossible to get a school place.



Brooke Weston City Technology College: educationists around the world are eager to learn the secret of its success

It's a technical knockout

An unlikely school in Corby has emerged as a role model to the world, reports Susan Elkin

Corby in Northamptonshire is a tough town. Since the closure of the steel works in the early Eighties, its ethnic population has experienced high levels of unemployment and deprivation. It is worrying but unsurprising that it also has a tradition of widespread educational under-achievement. It is not a place where you would expect to find an exemplary school. Yet Brooke Weston City Technology College (CTC), which opened in 1991, is now one of the most influential and frequently visited schools in Britain.

Almost four out of five GCSE candidates achieved 5 or more A* to C grades last year, an astonishing feat for a state school with a fully comprehensive intake, situated in an area of economic depression.

How is it done? Can it be copied? Almost every day, advisers, heads and teachers from other schools go to Corby to find out. It is also why Gareth Newman, Brooke Weston's Principal, and his senior colleagues are in demand for staff training sessions all over the country.

Even more unusual is the sphere of international influence that Brooke Weston has established on four continents. School and education authorities worldwide want to know about Brooke Weston's methods.

The 11-to-16 curriculum is carefully planned and taught at four levels: basic, standard, extended and advanced. Pupils choose and negotiate

which level is right for them. They then work on individual teaching groups at the bottom of the school, or in self-selected ability sets as they approach the examination years. Post-16 students routinely take four A levels, mixed and matched with advanced level GNVQ courses, the so-called "vocational A levels". Sophisticated technology is exploited to the utmost. The school year is divided into five terms. The school day is long and without conventional breaks. The school is open to students almost every day of the year and they may, if they wish, stay late into the evening to complete work. The airy pentagonal building is subject-zoned and has no staff room. The artificial "us and them" culture that creates a barrier between staff and students is refreshingly absent.

This is the "product" that two technology colleges, one in Moscow and the other in St Petersburg, have tried to replicate. Even the buildings have been converted and adapted to conform to the same principles. These schools are partly funded by ORT (a Russian

from abroad to this school," one unimpressed year eight boy told me.

Then there is the French connection. The nearest equivalent to a technology college in France is an establishment at the Futuroscope Centre near Poitiers. The Poitiers-based parent association is concerned with the development of technology in French schools. Mr Newman, bilingual and with strong contacts because his wife is French, has also lectured there.

When the Conservative Government set up the CTC programme in the late Eighties, there were howls of outrage. Critics predicted that a small number of elitist "super schools" would emerge to educate a minority at the expense of the rest. They were wrong. What the best of these schools, built with business sponsorship money but maintained by state grants, have done is to act as catalysts by inspiring other schools towards culture change, as was intended.

Who would have imagined a few years ago that a British school in a troubled urban area would be actively influential in improving the education of young people in other parts of Britain and on the other side of the world? That, surely, is a remarkable success story — for Britain as well as for Corby and for the students and staff at Brooke Weston.

■ Innovation Opens the Door. Susan Elkin's case study of Brooke Weston CTC, is published by TC Trust, 9 Whitehall, London SW1A 2DD. Price £7.50

We're always getting visitors from abroad'

Hugh Thompson discovers a scheme to ease exam-time pressure

Take the stress out of study

EVERY Saturday afternoon about ten A-level and GCSE students meet at the offices of a psychologist, Pauline Reeve, in the centre of Worcester. Over two-and-a-half hours they discuss anxieties and how to handle them. By comparing notes and learning a few simple techniques they hope to leave better equipped to handle not only the stresses and tensions of exams, but the pressure of day-to-day living.

"What I am trying to do is give them strategies for coping rather than denying," says Dr Reeve. "I started the course because I was getting a number of referrals from schools whose students were really disturbed by exams. I realised there was a way of tackling the problems before they became too extreme."

Most of the secondary schools in the city publicise Dr Reeve's course. The scheme is independent and most of her clients are boys. An increasing number come via the recommendation of their friends. Typically, the students find it difficult to settle down to revise, are so pressurised that they cannot sleep and get headaches, or feel guilty about doing anything else but work.

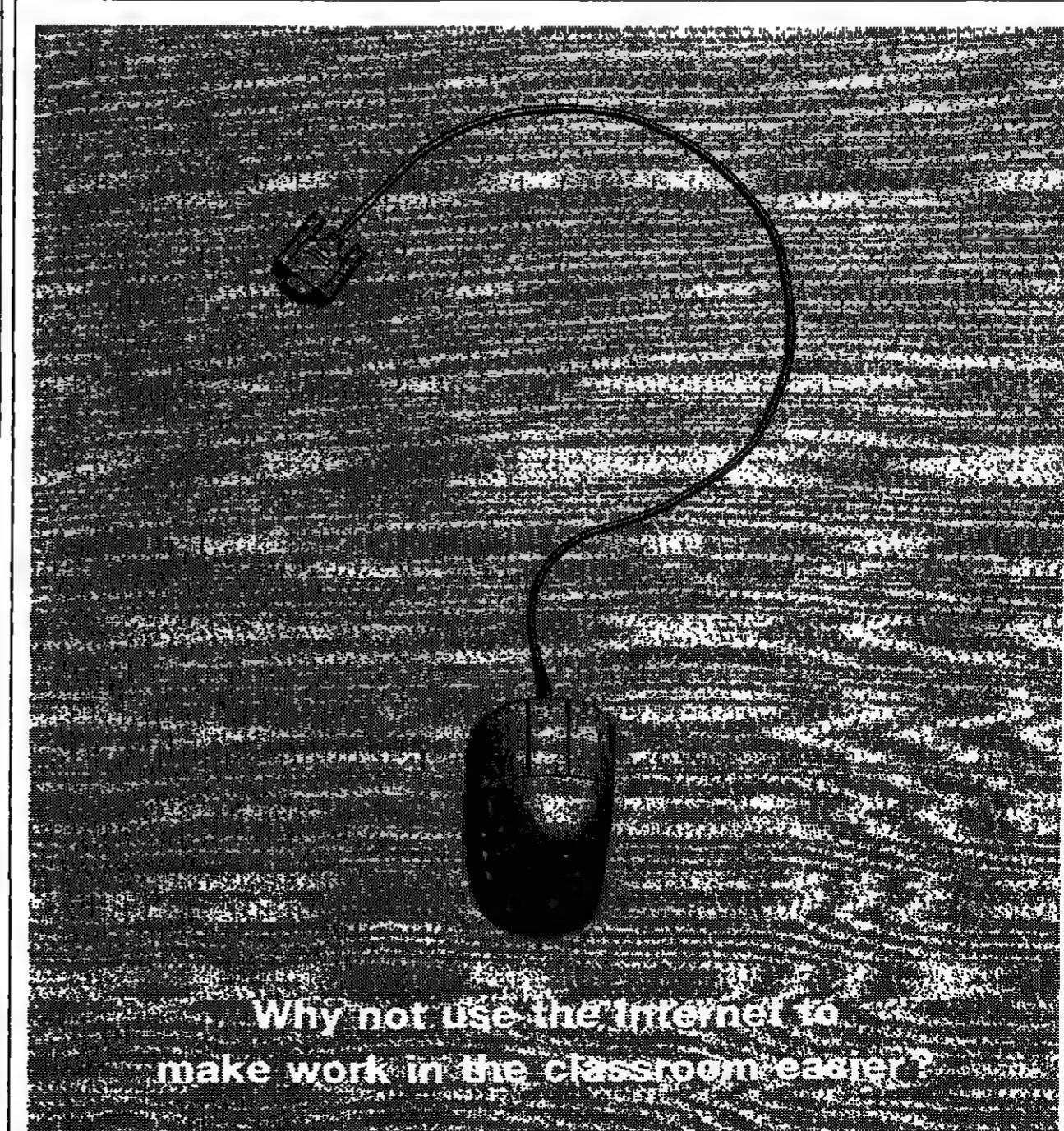
Dr Reeve says: "Exams are

and behave. They all have within them the solution to the problems. I try to help them take responsibility for that solution."

Even during the exam period, students may spend hours tidying up and vacuuming their rooms — anything but get down to the work they find so threatening. The trick is to replace coping strategies, which avoid the problems, to strategies which address and solve the source of the tension.

Giving the students self belief and confidence is part of the programme. "I cannot wave magic wands. All I can do is give them the techniques which help them focus and cope," says Dr Reeve.

The point is to teach students how to handle the pressure in a way that doesn't interfere with their goals. If they are going out, they must enjoy themselves and not feel guilty. But going out can be used as a reward for doing some particularly dull piece of



BT CampusWorld free trial offer.

Why not let the communications of today help teach the generations of tomorrow?

The Internet is the world's largest information resource, and with BT it can become your largest teaching resource.

BT CampusWorld is a secure area on the Internet designed by education professionals, for education professionals.

It can give your pupils access to over 18,000 pages of

information on all subjects in the national curriculum of the UK.

Why not take advantage of one month's free trial by accessing <http://www.campus.bt.com/CampusWorld/> if you're on the Internet? Or call BT on Lo-call 0345 573 393 if you're not.



Why not change the way we work?

* Internet service and call charges not included. Offer closes July 11th.

RACING: CHAMPION RECEIVES PLAUDITS AFTER MASTERLY RIDE EARNS MEMORABLE GOLD CUP

Eddery times it to perfection on Celeric

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

TEARS of joy and peals of celebratory laughter greeted Celeric in the winner's enclosure at Royal Ascot yesterday after a vintage ride by Pat Eddery contributed to the most memorable Gold Cup for a generation.

Having adopted the role of tail-end Charlie for the best part of two miles, Eddery began to weave through the field turning for home and then displayed the patience of Job as he deliberately took a pull approaching the furlong pole.

The 11-times champion jockey, acutely aware that Celeric



Eddery produces Celeric, left, to sweep clear of Classic Cliche in the dying strides of a thrilling Gold Cup at Royal Ascot yesterday

GOLF: LEADING RYDER CUP PROSPECTS STRUGGLE FOR FORM IN FIRST ROUND OF GERMAN OPEN

Weir aims to make his mark in Europe

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

A DOZEN of the leading 20 players in the Ryder Cup points table are in the Volvo German Open field, but none, from Ian Woosnam to Bernhard Langer, could break 70 in the first round in Stuttgart yesterday.

On a day when 32 lesser-known golfers went round in 69 or better, the best that the Ryder Cup hopefuls could achieve were rounds of 70 by Langer, Sam Torrance and Peter Mitchell, with Woosnam next on 71, along with Padraig Harrington and Ross McFarlane.

While the bigger names struggled on a course considerably toughened from last year, Mike Weir, of Canada, Rolf Muntz, from Holland, Ignacio Garrido, from Spain, and the Englishman, Ian Phillips, all went round in 65 to share the lead on six under par.

Having started at the 10th, Weir, 27, a left-hander hardly known in Europe, had a blistering run from the 17th to the 5th of six birdies and an eagle.

He had also had two earlier birdies, but his round was spoilt by a bad start and a poor finish; he dropped three shots in his first two holes and then, needing a four for a par at the 9th, his last hole, for the outright lead, he had another bogey.

Garrido, 25, from Madrid, had earlier bogeyed the 9th when he, too, needed a par to go to seven under.

Phillips, a former Walker

Cup player, who stands out among European golfers because he always plays in a business shirt and tie, set the pace early in the day with seven birdies and only one bogey after putting superbly.

Woosnam, who won this event last year when the tournament was reduced to 54 holes because of thunderstorms, had a two-over-par 38 for the first nine holes and said: "I just drove badly."

However, the 39-year-old Welshman, who is hoping for a top-four placing to extend his lead at the top of the European Order of Merit, had birdies at the 10th and 18th to bring his score back to level par.

Last year, he was 20 under par for his three rounds, but said: "The course is now two or three shots harder and after my poor start I'm pretty glad to have a par round."

Langer, who, like Woosnam, has been suffering from back trouble, said he had no problems and was reasonably satisfied with his 70.

Torrance and Langer were both eclipsed by their playing partner, Stuart Cage, who had won birdies in his round of 66. "I was a little nervous on the first tee because you don't want to hack your way round with such good players," Cage, 23, said.

"I've never played with Bernhard before and he was very nice. He was a bit unlucky. His puts just kept sliding by while I was putting them in."

Cage, who gained his first

European Tour success when he won the Cannes Open in April, added: "I'm 33rd in the Order of Merit at present, but my big target is to make the top 20. To make the Ryder Cup team, I've got to win at least one more tournament and probably two."

Other Ryder Cup prospects, particularly Per-Ulrich Johansson, of Sweden, and the Italian, Costantino Rocca, who both shot 72, Jean Van de Velde, from France, who shot

73, and David Gilford, Roger Chapman and David Carter, each with 75, need to improve or face missing the cut.

■ A record 2,133 players are hoping to be among those competing in the Open Championship at Royal Troon next month. The figure is 215 more than last year and has forced the Royal and Ancient Club into adding an extra venue, Northamptonshire County, for the regional qualifying stage on July 7.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a

series of changes in the

qualifying process.

For the first time in 10 years, the Royal and Ancient have decided to make the qualifying process more difficult by awarding only 100 places to the top 100 players in the final regional qualifying stage.

The decision follows a</

ivies goes left.
in pursuit of
e perfect put

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

SPORT 43

RUGBY LEAGUE

St Helens
find time
is not on
their side

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

ST HELENS have lodged an official complaint about the timekeeping during their 48-8 defeat against Cronulla Sharks that leaves the Knowsley Road club in danger of missing out on one of the three automatic quarter-final places at the top of their world club championship group.

Nearly nine minutes were added on to the first half of the match at Knowsley Road on Monday and it was later discovered that the clock had stopped for 3min 44sec. During that time, Cronulla scored two converted tries, the second of which came in the 47th minute — more than two minutes after the half-time hooter should have sounded.

It leaves St Helens in fourth place in European pool A, behind Warrington Wolves on points difference. David Howes, the St Helens chief executive, said: "We have been inundated with inquiries about the length of the first half. A fault was found in the timekeeping system that goes through a machine straight on to the television clock. It appears the clock never moved for nearly four minutes."

"Obviously, we cannot do anything about that now, but technically, it cost us at least one try. We have agreed with the Rugby Football League that there will be a safeguard of a secondary system to run alongside the technical one. Although we can't undo what is done, we have lodged an official complaint."

Shaun McRae, the St Helens coach, said: "We are not saying we would have won, but points for and against are going to be vital for the quarter-final places." Damage limitation has become a priority for beaten European sides in the competition. In 20 matches, only Wigan Warriors and Sheffield Eagles have registered wins.

Bradford Bulls will do well at Olds tonight to keep the score against Cronulla to manageable proportions, while Sheffield must concentrate on doing the same against Hunter Mariners at Don Valley Stadium.

Oldham Bears go to Adelaidie hampered by a spate of injuries and the three-match suspension of Paul Davidson, the second-row forward, for allegedly biting the arm of a North Queensland opponent in the Bears' last match.



Despite having no home track, Lewis is confident of her chances of success at the world championships

'Anybody who shies away from competition is underachieving'

Welcome back from the Olympic Games Denise, and congratulations on being Great Britain's only woman medal-winner. By the way, sorry, but we are digging up your club track this winter. Can you find somewhere else to train? World championships next year? Well, do your best.

There may be an impression forming that Britain's women athletes are more interested at present in winning medals, given the recent publicity over the withdrawals of Phyllis Smith and Judy Oakes from the European Cup squad in protest at their meagre National Lottery sports fund grants. Denise Lewis, on the other hand, complains less in general than perhaps she is entitled to.

When Birmingham City Council announced the upgrading of the Alexander Stadium, the work was bound to inconvenience Lewis, one of Britain's few hopes for a gold medal at the world championships in Athens this summer. It needed to be done, Lewis acknowledged, but that did not make it any less of a nuisance.

Lewis, for the record, says that she is "grateful" for her £6,000 lottery money, though she sympathises with Oakes and Smith. She will be more grateful, however, to have her home track back, especially as the stadium will have a new surface as part of a £640,000 improvement scheme.

Since winning a heptathlon bronze medal in Atlanta, Lewis has had to find alternative places to train. One track she has used in Wolverhampton

is "near home, but the facilities aren't great". Fortunately, Birmingham University granted her permission to use its track.

When Lewis learnt that she was to become a temporary nomad, she decided "just to get on with it and try to find somewhere decent". Only a little jibe: "If McDonald's can have a new site up in four weeks, I don't know why it is taking four months." Nearer five, actually.

Get on with it she did. Three weeks ago, in Gotzis, Austria, Lewis improved her British and Commonwealth record to 6,736 points, winning the most important annual heptathlon outside the championships and defeating Natalya Sazanovich, from Belarus, the Atlanta Olympic

expectation of winning. In Gotzis, Lewis was especially pleased with her javelin, 52.30 metres. "I need to be over 50 metres consistently," she said.

The javelin is one of the weakest events for most heptathletes. While she was encouraged, also, by her 200 metres (24.10sec), 800 metres (2min 16.70sec) and high jump (1.62 metres), she said: "There is loads of room for improvement."

Lewis includes a 1.90 metres high jump and a 23.50sec 200 metres among her goals, but this weekend it is the long jump on her mind. She jumped a wind-assisted 6.77 metres in Gotzis and a legal 6.65 metres. Anything in excess of seven metres wins global medals in that event alone and Lewis's talent for the event was underlined when she was selected for Munich ahead of Jo Wise, who was fourth in the world indoor championships in March.

According to Lewis, it was Heike Drechsler's father and coach who advised her to lengthen her run-up. "He did not think I was reaching my optimum speed on the runway," Lewis said. "Now I am hitting the board at greater speed. I believe there is a 6.80 tapping on the door."

Whether Lewis opens that door this weekend may prove vital to a weakened Britain women's team avoiding relegation. She is in with the specialists long jumpers, but will risk a drubbing. "Anybody who shies away from competition is underachieving," she said.

Whatever happens, she has a nice new track to look forward to soon after she gets home.

ROWING

Strengthening challenge to Redgrave's World Cup four

FROM MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT, IN PARIS

THE Great Britain coxless four of Matthew Pinsent, Tim Foster, Steve Redgrave and James Cracknell, leaders of their event in the World Cup after their success in Munich three weeks ago, can look forward to much stiffer competition in the second round being held here this weekend.

Germany and Croatia, who chased the British four home in Munich, have been joined by France and Slovenia, second and fourth respectively in coxless fours in the Olympic Games in Atlanta. The French have decided to split their eight into two fours and the top crew includes three world champions.

Britain, second behind Germany out of the 27 nations who scored points in Munich, remain faithful to other points-scoring crews, including the youthful eight and the



Greg Searle: solo effort

British best at Henley

THE Henley entry, which was announced yesterday, includes all the leading Britons who are racing in Paris this weekend, despite the fact that Henley falls just one week before the World Cup finals in Lucerne (Mike Rosewell writes). Steve Redgrave, who won his fifteenth Henley medal in 1995 in what looked likely to be his last appearance there, returns in the new British coxless four, already winners of the World Cup event in Munich.

The four will not be overruled, since they are entered in the Seward's Challenge Cup, where they have

only two rivals, both lightweight fours from Nottingham County. The young British eight from Imperial College/London University also has just two opponents in the Grand, but they are formidable ones in the form of a Berlin eight, four members of which won the Prince Phillip coxed fours last year, and the Australian eight, which is making its first European appearance in Paris.

The lightweight eight, second in Munich, appears again and the lightweight sculler, Jane Hall, like Greg Searle trying to move up the world rankings after a successful rowing career, will be pushing to improve on her fifth place in Germany.

BANK OF SCOTLAND BANKING DIRECT® INTEREST RATE CHANGE

With effect from 18th June 1997, interest rates payable on the underlined account have changed.

BANKING DIRECT INSTANT ACCESS SAVINGS ACCOUNT	
Gross %*	6.25
£10,000 and above	6.25
£5,000 to £9,999	5.75
£500 to £4,999	5.00

**BANK OF SCOTLAND
BANKING DIRECT®**

*Gross - The annual rate of interest payable without the deduction of lower rate tax to eligible non-tax-payers.
**Interest payable annually (monthly option available). Interest rates subject to variation.

Bank of Scotland Banking Direct and £50 are registered trademarks of The Governor and Company of the Bank of Scotland.

IN BRIEF

Green flag for Irish take-over bid

PHILLIPS NOLAN, from Dublin, who skips for Ireland in the women's home international series at Ayr today, is furious at being left out of the Irish team for the inaugural European team championships in Guernsey in September (David Rhys Jones writes).

"I'm bitterly disappointed," Nolan said yesterday. "Not only have I partnered Margaret Johnston to the world pairs title three times running, I have also won the British Isles singles title twice and the

fours once over the past five years."

As Johnston has been selected, Nolan feels that she has been snubbed. "If they thought it was a minor competition, fair enough, but, in that case, it would have been logical to rest Margaret and myself."

England, with Andrew Thomson and Tony Allcock, unavailable, have named Brett Morley and John Bell to partner Jean Baker and Mary Price, respectively.

BOWLS

Nolan rejects selection oversight

PHILLIPS NOLAN, from Dublin, who skips for Ireland in the women's home international series at Ayr today, is furious at being left out of the Irish team for the inaugural European team championships in Guernsey in September (David Rhys Jones writes).

"I'm bitterly disappointed," Nolan said yesterday. "Not only have I partnered Margaret Johnston to the world pairs title three times running, I have also won the British Isles singles title twice and the

fours once over the past five years."

As Johnston has been selected, Nolan feels that she has been snubbed. "If they thought it was a minor competition, fair enough, but, in that case, it would have been logical to rest Margaret and myself."

England, with Andrew Thomson and Tony Allcock, unavailable, have named Brett Morley and John Bell to partner Jean Baker and Mary Price, respectively.

The committee believes the bid "will enable the club to compete strongly in the premier league and facilitate the continuing development of the mini, youth and junior sections which are essential to the success of London Irish".

Birdie burst

GOLF Brian Rimmer, with a third round of 64, a course record, took the lead in the Glenmuir PGA club professionals' championship at Northrop Country Park. Rimmer, from the Trentham Park club, had nine birdies and only one dropped shot, at the 6th. With a 54-hole score of 202, he is three strokes clear of the field.

Doctor's orders

BOXING P.J. Gallagher, the British super-featherweight champion, has given up his title after being ordered to rest for six months in a year for "medical reasons". Gallagher has been suffering from a testosterone deficiency due, it is thought, to over-training.

Well short

CYCLING Although Yvonne McGregor broke four national track records at Manchester, she failed in her main aim to regain the world one-hour record that she lost to Jeannie Longo, of France, last October. The British champion finished 551 metres

short of the mark. That will be easy enough if they split 3-2, or 4-1 with West having the singleton honour. The other relevant 4-1 break is when West has four. If you could play clubs only once from the South hand, it would be best to play the ten on the first round if West followed low. That gains against 4-1 breaks in which East has a small singleton, and loses if East started with a singleton honour. As there are three small cards outstanding and only two honours, the former layout is more likely.

But on this hand South is in a position to improve his chances. Best is to win the heart in hand, preserving the ace of hearts as an entry to dummy, and play a club to the ace. If all follow small, South returns to his hand with the ace of spades, and plays another club, covering West's card if he follows. That way, declarer makes whenever the clubs are 3-2, or when they are 4-1 with West having four. Declarer succeeds against both QxQ and QJxQ with West. Notice that playing the ace of spades can never set up more than three tricks for the defence — if spades are 5-1 the jack will be a stopper.

After 11 rounds in the European championships, the leading positions in the open series are Italy 228, Norway 210,

Short fall

Nigel Short has suffered a catastrophic slide in the latest World Chess Federation (FIDE) rankings in a preview of its list which will be officially published on July 1. Having been the top British player for many years, Short has slumped to No 3 behind Adams and Sadler. The top ten are: Adams 2680, Sadler 2665, Short 2660, Speelman 2630, Nunn 2620, Miles 2595, Hodgson 2590, Hebdon 2575, Chandler 2555 and Watson 2535.

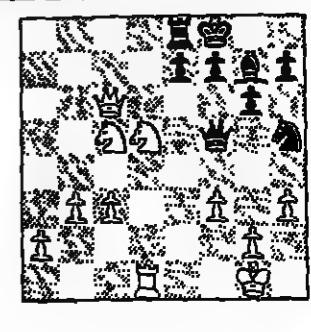
London Grandmasters

The scores in the Drury Lane grandmaster tournament after two rounds are: Ennals 2; Agard and Kumaran 1.5.

White: Ennals
Black: Pedersen
Drury Lane, 1997
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 e5
2 Nf3 Nc6
3 c4 Bc5
4 Nc3 d5
5 d4 Nf6
6 Bg5 Nc6
7 cxd5 Qd7
8 Nxd5 Bb4
9 a3 Be7
10 Bf4 Qd8
11 0-0 b6
12 Qd2 Rfe8
13 Rad1 g6
14 Bg5 Nc6
15 Ne4 Qc7
16 Nf4 Bxf4
17 Nxe6 Bxg5
18 Nc5 Bxf4
19 Nxf4 Nc4
20 Qd3

Diagram of final position



Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in The Times, and is available now from bookshops or from B.1. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276) at £6.99 plus postage and packing.

□ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORDWATCHING

By Philip Howard

- ANKUS
 - a. Obsolete Burmese currency
 - b. Initial sound of a word
 - c. A goad
- FASCINATOR
 - a. A shawl
 - b. A salmon fly
 - c. A man servant

Answers on page 45

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Palac-Minasian, Pula 1997. How did White exploit the constricted position of the black king?

Solution on page 45

RUGBY UNION

Andrews emerges from pain barrier to confront Lions

Mark Andrews makes no bones about it: "The reason I am here is the British Lions series," he said. "The Lions are an unknown quantity. I have played against the New Zealanders, the Australians, the French, but I have no idea what to expect from the Lions."

"We watch the five nations' on television and it seems very boring, not many tries. Yet the Lions are playing almost French-style rugby, but they control the ball better. I don't know how our defence will stand up to that." Apart from what this says to British administrators about Lions tours, it also underscores the sense of uncertainty surrounding South Africa as the team prepares for the first international at Newlands here in Cape Town tomorrow.

Andrews is a fixture in the second row of the Springbok pack — he has played the last 30 internationals in succession since making his debut against England in Cape Town three years ago — and now, at 25, he has become a world-class forward. In that comparatively short time, he has played under four coaches and no more than half of the side that he helped to win the World Cup in 1995 remain. "You always have to adapt, to new coaches, new players and that's the process we are going through now," he said.

In addition, the Natal lock has been through his own crisis. Andrews has an unstable right shoulder that has suffered from the weight of fixtures he has played, for province and country. He estimates that he played 38 matches last year, many of an intensity far greater than British fixtures, though that figure falls short of the 44 played by Martin Johnson, the Lions captain, during the last English season.

Andrews considers a shelf life of no more than another three years, unless he can extend his playing career "on my terms". That is to say, no more than 25 games a season, given the competitive level for

David Hands meets the South Africa lock forward who epitomises the world champions' resilience

adaptable, too, to accept the unfamiliar role of No 8 in a World Cup semi-final two years later.

"When we won the World Cup, we were the best international team on the planet and I believe we deserved to win," Andrews said. "In 1996, we weren't. We wouldn't have been world champions that year, maybe not in 1997 either. We may be called world champions, but that's not how we see ourselves — now. We are looking forward to Wales and 1999. There have been clashes of interests, over contracts, over coaches, but slowly we are coming together again. I have been very impressed with Carel du Plessis and Gerd Smal [the new South Africa coaches]. They have taught me new skills."

Andrews, a big man with an amiable disposition, is at home speaking English or Afrikaans, which not all his colleagues are. He hails from Elliot, a small town in the Eastern Cape to the south of the border with Lesotho. His family owns a 2,000-acre farm, to which he hopes to retire when he has hung up his boots. "The game has served me well, but I have given my all to rugby, too, and when we part ways, we part."

He spent a season with Aurillac in France, where, as a fresh-faced 19-year-old, he was thrown into the first XV and played 22 games in 25 weeks. "They didn't teach me anything about rugby, but I grew up very quickly," he said. Sufficiently swiftly to make his way into the ranks of a Natal side that won the Currie Cup in 1992 and then to tour with South Africa to Argentina in 1993. He proved sufficiently

"I don't think I could drop down a few grades just to go on playing," he said — this from a man who, from the age of eight, hoped to become a professional rugby player.

Andrews, a big man with an amiable disposition, is at home speaking English or Afrikaans, which not all his colleagues are. He hails from Elliot, a small town in the Eastern Cape to the south of the border with Lesotho. His family owns a 2,000-acre farm, to which he hopes to retire when he has hung up his boots. "The game has served me well, but I have given my all to rugby, too, and when we part ways, we part."

"I haven't been happy with my rugby this season," he said. "Part of my game is putting the tackles in, making the hits at rucks and mauls, and there was a time when I was worrying whether I would hurt myself. The Lions need not concern themselves with that face of Andrews's play tomorrow. Any man who has been through the pain barrier of 100 scrums in one training session, as South Africa did on Monday, is ready for a serious game of rugby.

Andrews is curious about Johnson, of whom he first became aware when he read a profile in a rugby magazine while touring Britain. The two locks have opposed each other only once, at Twickenham in 1995, though even then they were not opposite numbers, since Johnson is a front jumper and Andrews plays in the middle of the lineout.

"He has a great reputation," Andrews said. "I hope for his sake he can live up to it. Life is very hard for sportsmen sometimes." Therein lies an unspoken promise.



Andrews amiable

given the competitive level for

provinces and country. He estimates that he played 38 matches last year, many of an intensity far greater than British fixtures, though that figure falls short of the 44 played by Martin Johnson, the Lions captain, during the last English season.

Andrews considers a shelf life of no more than another three years, unless he can extend his playing career "on my terms". That is to say, no more than 25 games a season, given the competitive level for

Schultz-McCarthy serves warning

BY JULIAN MUSCAT,
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

HEAVY skies above Eastbourne almost certainly mirrored the mood of Monica Seles, the defending champion, who trailed Brenda Schultz-McCarthy by one set after 40 minutes of their quarter-final in the Direct Line international championships yesterday.

The scores were locked at 2-2 in the second set when rain forced the match's abandonment after 40 minutes' play and Seles, despite her designs on Wimbledon, was probably grateful for the recess. As she had in her second-round victory over Naoko Sawamatsu on Wednesday, she let Schultz-McCarthy, of Holland, back into the match after shaping to race away with it.

Seles, the No 1 seed, established a 5-2 lead before Schultz-McCarthy, employing her powerful service to maximum effect, reeled off the next five games. On each occasion, Seles threatened a break, her opponent needed No 8, served her way out of trouble.

Seles, of the United States, has triumphed over Schultz-McCarthy in each of their four previous matches. However, she dropped sets in three of them and knows that she is precariously placed when the match resumes this morning.

Seles has yet to win a title this year; she missed the first two months of the season with a broken finger.

In the other quarter-final to reach the court, Natasha Zvereva, of Belarus, secured the opening set from Nathalie Tauziat before rain intervened in a match between two undefeated opponents.

Play commences at 11am today, when the quarter-final and semi-final rounds are due for completion. With Wimbledon starting on Monday, players and tournament officials alike will be anxious to complete the tournament on schedule tomorrow. The tournament has always run its course, although the final was once held over to Sunday.

Common with other sporting events this summer, The All England Club yesterday announced increased security measures over the Wimbledon fortnight. All bags

will be searched on entry and cars checked at parking entrances. "The safety of all our visitors is of paramount importance," Christopher Gorringe, the club's chief executive, said yesterday.



Seles struggles for inspiration during a difficult 40 minutes' play at Eastbourne...

Pierce forced out by elbow injury

MARY PIERCE pulled out of

the women's tournament in Rosmalen, Holland, yesterday, complaining of a strained right elbow and saying that she hopes to be fit for Wimbledon. Pierce wants to give the injury time to heal ahead of Wimbledon, which begins next Monday. Shaun Beckish, a spokesman for the Women's Tennis Association, said:

"She strained the elbow in the last game of her doubles

match." Beckish said, Pierce and her partner, Anke Huber, had reached the semi-final of the doubles tournament. In singles play, Pierce beat Sarah Pitowski, of France, 6-3, 7-5.

Persistent rain throughout

the day — and the threat of

more to come — left the

referee, Tony Gathercole, with little choice but to call off

play at the Wimbledon qualifying tournament at Roehampton yesterday without a

ball being hit. The final round

in the men's and women's

singles should have been

played, with British players

involved in both, but al-

though the covers came off

briefly at lunchtime, the rain

quickly returned.

Miles MacTaglan, 22, of

Scotland, was to play Oscar

Burrieta, of Spain, for a place

in the main 'draw' in the

women's singles. Amanda

Janes was to meet Miriam

Schnitzer, of Germany.

POLO

Black Bears advance with strong finish

URS SCHWARZENBACH'S team, the Black Bears, reached Sunday's final of the high-goal Alfred Dunhill tournament for the Queen's Cup when they defeated the Buffalos, who are put together by Jean-Pancras Decau, by 8-5 at Smith's Lawn yesterday (John Watson writes).

The wet turf made for hazardous conditions and driving shots went astray too often. It was not always easy to avoid committing fouls.

There was little to choose between two superbly-mounted quartets, the Buffalos being based on the power of their Argentine duo, Sebastian Merlos and Juan Bolini, staunchly backed by Anthony Fanshawe with their useful player-patron in the No 1 slot.

Sunday's final, starting at 3pm, will be followed by the final of the Queen's Cup subsidiary event, the Alfred Dunhill Cup.

BLACK BEARS: 1, U Schwarzenbach (11,

2 F Llorente (6), 3, M Acciai (10), Beck, J

Franz (3)

BUFFALOS: 1, J F Decau (11), 2, J Bolini

(7), 3, S Merlos (10), Beck, A Fanshawe (4)

Black Bears pivoted on the American ten-hander, Mike Azzaro, who has a close understanding with his No 2, Tomas Llorente.

By half-time, when the pitch was a mass of sodden divots, the Buffalos were 3-1 ahead, but the Bears drew level at 4-4 in the fourth chukka. After a penalty goal by the Bears, the sixth and last chukka began with them 6-5 ahead and they dominated the remainder of a contest.

The crown was vacated by Henry Akinwande, who was the second British boxer, after Lennox Lewis, to beat Tucker. The American, who has suffered four of his five defeats in the past four years, is not entirely certain that he will get past the third Briton, but he said yesterday, after training

Tucker prepares for last chance of glory

IT IS not often that Tony Tucker fights away from the main centres of boxing, but the ageing former world champion now has to go where the work is (Srikumar Sen writes).

This time, he has left behind the glossier arenas of Nevada and California for the Sports Village at Norwich, where he will meet Herbie Hide on June 28 for the World Boxing Organisation heavyweight championship.

However, Tucker, after sparring with Thomas Williams, a heavyweight, and Dredie James, a cruiserweight, described himself as being in excellent shape. "I've been training for ten weeks," he said, "and I am absolutely ready for Herbie Hide."

However, during sparring yesterday, Tucker, who weighs 18st — around two stones heavier than when he met Lewis in 1993 — seemed slow and had trouble keeping out his opponents' punches. It is unlikely that he will pose Hide too many problems.

At Norwich, that he was here

for a "do-or-die affair".

"Herbie Hide is young and, if he is beaten, he can go on," he said. "I am 38. I can't. If I lose, that's it for me."

However, Tucker, after

sparring with Thomas

Williams, a heavyweight, and

Dredie James, a cruiserweight,

described himself as being in excellent shape. "I've been training for ten weeks," he said, "and I am absolutely ready for Herbie Hide."

However, during sparring

yesterday, Tucker, who

weighs 18st — around two

stones heavier than when he

met Lewis in 1993 — seemed

slow and had trouble keeping

out his opponents' punches. It

is unlikely that he will pose

Hide too many problems.

At Norwich, that he was here

for a "do-or-die affair".

"Herbie Hide is young and,

if he is beaten, he can go on," he

said. "I am 38. I can't. If I lose,

that's it for me."

However, Tucker, after

sparring with Thomas

Williams, a heavyweight, and

Dredie James, a cruiserweight,

described himself as being in excellent shape. "I've been training for ten weeks," he said, "and I am absolutely ready for Herbie Hide."

However, during sparring

yesterday, Tucker, who

weighs 18st — around two

stones heavier than when he

met Lewis in 1993 — seemed

slow and had trouble keeping

out his opponents' punches. It

is unlikely that he will pose

Hide too many problems.

At Norwich, that he was here

for a "do-or-die affair".

"Herbie Hide is young and,

if he is beaten, he can go on," he

said. "I am 38. I can't. If I lose,

that's it for me."

However, Tucker, after

sparring with Thomas

Williams, a heavyweight, and

Dredie James, a cruiserweight,

described himself as being in excellent shape. "I've been training for ten weeks," he said, "and I am absolutely ready for Herbie Hide."

However, during sparring

yesterday, Tucker, who

weighs 18st — around two

stones heavier than when he

met Lewis in 1993 — seemed

slow and had

Platt given
all-clear
by Arsenal
to leave

CRICKET

Relaid pitch makes life nightmarish for batsmen

By PAT GIBSON

BRISTOL (second day of four): Middlesex, with four second-innings wickets in hand, are 36 runs ahead of Gloucestershire.

A DELEGATION from the England and Wales Cricket Board's pitches advisory group will visit the County Ground today to decide what action to take over an always unsatisfactory and at times dangerous pitch that looks like dealing a severe blow to Gloucestershire's chances of winning the championship.

Harry Brind, the inspector of pitches, was alerted before lunch on the first day after a call from the umpires, Ray Julian and Peter Willey, and although he saw Middlesex recover from 27 for four to 237, Gloucestershire's subsequent collapse to 99 all out was enough to convince him that something had to be done.

Middlesex's decline to 78 for six in their second innings amply confirmed his opinion. David Bridle, the long-serving Bristol groundsman, who happens to be one of Brind's assistants, will have the chance to explain what went wrong with a relaid pitch that had never been used previously for a first-class game, and that may save Gloucestershire from immediate punishment. They could be warned, however, that if any more pitches are reported, they could be deducted a minimum of ten points or a maximum of 25.

Such a threat would obviously make it difficult for Gloucestershire to take any more chances with what are euphemistically known as "resurfaced" pitches.

Play did not get under way until 3pm yesterday, but it was soon apparent that a morning spent under the covers had done nothing to improve the playing surface. It remained dry, the cracks were beginning to open and the bounce was becoming even more uneven.

The Gloucestershire batsman, who had already seen several Middlesex players, notably Brown and Dutch, battered about the hands and their own, Lynch, forced to

retire with a badly bruised finger, did not fancy it at all when they resumed at 57 for three. It was as much as they could do to save the follow-on.

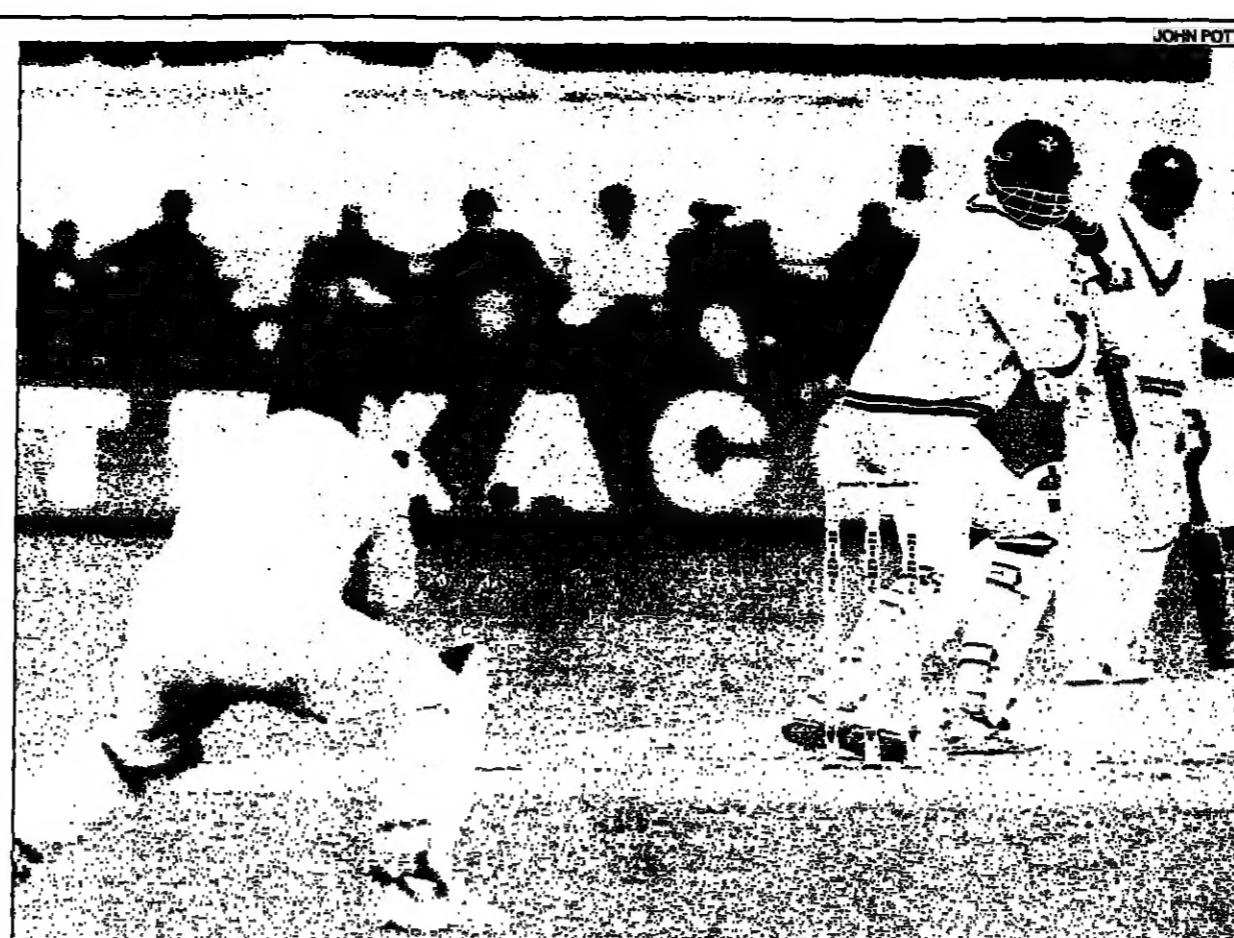
Middlesex were unable to call on Fraser, who had twisted an ankle playing basketball in the gym, which seemed a stupid thing to do when conditions were so much in his favour, but it hardly seemed to matter as Johnson quickly had Gloucestershire on the run. He had Lewis, the nightwatchman, caught at short backward square-leg, Alleyne caught behind and Russell, having in desperation, taken at mid-off.

In between times, Tim Bloomfield, 24, making his championship debut, introduced himself as a fast bowler of some potential. A van driver, who plays for the Staines and Laleham club and occasionally Berkshire, he has had only a handful of second team games.

Bowling fast and straight, he surprised Wright into giving him a simple return catch to end almost three hours of gritty resistance and, with his next ball, hit Hancock's middle stump. In the end, Lynch had to resume his innings to help save the follow-on, but, once that had been achieved, when Ball hit Bloomfield through mid-wicket for four, he retired again.

He was not a bad judge. If anything, the pitch was getting worse and Middlesex wickets were quickly numbly. Weeks was caught behind off Lewis and Kallis taken via bat and pad at short leg off Smith. Gaming became another victim of the conditions when his second ball, from Young, struck him on the right hand. He was not offering a stroke when he fell before Lewis.

Ramprakash again coped better than anyone, but when he had got to 24, Lewis bowled him. Pooley went next, caught in the gully off Young, and Lewis took his fourth wicket when Brown was caught at second slip off the last ball of the day.



Tudor is beaten by a ball outside his off stump during his timely innings of 31 not out at Worcester yesterday

Hick in prime position to do battle

By JACK BAILEY

WORCESTER (second day of four): Worcestershire, with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 371 runs behind Surrey

A DAY that began bizarrely, with Martin Bicknell signalling for a sweater after he had been at the crease for all of one ball, ended after only 35 overs had been bowled. Twenty of these saw the Surrey tailenders increase their side's score by 70 runs for the loss of two wickets. About 5½ hours

later, the same Bicknell rushed in and had Tim Curtis caught behind from the first ball of the Worcestershire innings.

Curtis appeared to have misgivings about his dismissal, but, while the whole Worcestershire team were left looking down the barrel, it served to introduce Graeme Hick, who helped himself to a large share of the 44 runs conceded during Bicknell's five overs. Hick's intervention was just as well for Worcestershire's morale. They had seen the Surrey tailenders bat al-

most as well as the big guns, Tudor and Saqlain figuring in an unbroken partnership worth 59 in 14 overs, taking Surrey's total to 452.

There were crumbs of comfort for others besides Hick. Taking the new ball as soon as it was due, in the day's second over, Worcestershire made smooth inroads initially. Lampitt caused Knot to fence outside the off stump and he was swallowed by Solanki at first slip. A similar ball, leaving the batsman off the seam, accounted for Bicknell, caught behind — for an accomplice.

The rain eventually put an end to Worcestershire's foreboding. Surrey's declaration, Hick's scintillating display of strokemaking, which brought him ten fours in his undefeated 47, and Weston's survival put an altogether better complexion on things; but Worcestershire still have much to do.

Lampitt, a well deserved fourth wicket for Worcestershire, thoughts of an end to chasing leather. It did not work out that way. Tudor displayed an unseemly range of strokes for a No II; Saqlain was an able accomplice.

The rain eventually put an end to Worcestershire's foreboding. Surrey's declaration, Hick's scintillating display of strokemaking, which brought him ten fours in his undefeated 47, and Weston's survival put an altogether better complexion on things; but Worcestershire still have much to do.

Adams puts his case during lull in strife at Derbyshire

By BARNEY SPENDER

DERBY (second day of four): Derbyshire, with two first-innings wickets in hand, are nine runs ahead of Sussex

AFTER the week-long war of words that has cast a pall over life at Derbyshire, a kind of peace broke out yesterday. There were no resignations, no fines and no statements from either players or administrators, which meant that the cricket could again take centre stage.

The ceasefire, however, is likely to prove temporary as certain *incendiary* matters have still to be tackled, such as the eventual fate of Kim Barnett's fine for speaking to the press and the longer-term issues of the captaincy and coaching position. A committee meeting over the weekend is expected to confirm Phil DeFreitas's position as captain, at least for Tuesday's NatWest Trophy match against Lincolnshire — and probably for the remainder of the season.

Although the incumbent coach, Les Stillman, has been given the dreaded chairman's vote of confidence, Andy Hayhurst, looking after the first team for this game while Stillman is with the second XI, may be eased in by the end of the summer.

Dominic Cork called into the ground after undergoing an operation on his troublesome groin. According to the club secretary, Stuart Edwards, the operation proved routine and Cork was feeling "very chipper". He will, though, be out of action for at least another six weeks.

Play yesterday was restricted to 45 overs, which was enough for Derbyshire to secure a slender lead due to good innings from Chris Adams and Vince Clarke.

Adams seems to be Derbyshire's version of the tortured artist, alone against the world, searching for the right gallery to display his work. He is certainly a fine player, as his 172 runs last year testified, but he was a Jones man and now appears to be frozen out.

He has not helped the situation by making himself the only man in the side not to offer to contribute to Barnett's fighting fund, but he did do his cause some good yesterday by making 53, a showcase innings for alternative employers, which pulled Derbyshire out of the mire after they had slipped to 85 for five.

Vashti Drakes, the Barbados fast bowler, who finished the day with four for 44, started the rot by uprooting the off stumps of both Tim Tweats, who shouldered arms to a straight one, and Barnett, who was beaten for pace.

When James Kirley had John Owen leg-before, Adams and Clarke began the salvage operation with a partnership of 59. Adams is not one to hang around. He lifted Kirley over mid-wicket for six and then drilled him for four boundaries in one over, three of them through the off side from successive deliveries.

His 50 came up on only 36 balls, but he then gave his wicket away when an attempted pick-up of Robinson resulted in a top edge.

Clarke kept things going with some pleasing shots of his own, which helped him to 48 not out by the close.

Lewis vigil leaves Kent with a battle on their hands

By IVO TENNANT

DARLINGTON (second day of four): Kent, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 113 runs behind Durham

AFTER reaching the top of the county table by beating sides of more apparent abilities than Durham, Kent are having to strive to make something of this match. Only Jonathan Lewis, who carried his bat and whose 158 was the highest championship score of his career, found runs on a day in which 46 overs were lost to rain and bad light.

Lewis, who had made 129 overnight, became only the second Durham batsman to carry his bat in first-class cricket. The other person to do so in what, of course, has been a brief history, was Wayne Larkins, who in 1994 coincidentally also scored 158, this against Courtney Walsh and Gloucestershire on a difficult pitch at Gateshead Fel. There the comparison ends.

By the time Larkins came to Durham, he was nearing the end of an unfulfilled career. On his day, and that occasion was evidently just that, he was brilliant. Lewis does not possess that kind of croucating talent, so he totes for it through bloody-minded resolve. He was in for almost seven hours, hit 18 fours and will have bolstered his self-esteem immeasurably. Given the role of opening batsman, he is averaging 63 in his first season for Durham.

He added, in all, 110 for overs for the eighth wicket with Bolling, who was eventually bowled as soon as Fleming came on in the morning. The Kent all-rounder enabled the leaders to obtain maximum bowling points, having Brown caught at the wicket and Alan Walker in the covers, skying an unnecessary drive, given who was batting at the other end.

For once, Brown was not the pick of Durham's attack. Indeed, he was not his customary accurate self. Betts, though, bowled more quickly on this unresponsive pitch than he has hitherto this season and Walker and Foster were markedly accurate. Even the attack-minded Fleming initially had his difficulties in forcing the ball off the square.

Bets had Matthew Walker leg-before with a ball just short of yorker length. Next, he found a good one to have Ward taken at the wicket. The Kent all-rounder enabled the leaders to obtain maximum bowling points, having Brown caught at the wicket and Alan Walker in the covers, skying an unnecessary drive, given who was batting at the other end.

For once, Brown was not the pick of Durham's attack. Indeed, he was not his customary accurate self. Betts, though, bowled more quickly on this unresponsive pitch than he has hitherto this season and Walker and Foster were markedly accurate. Even the attack-minded Fleming initially had his difficulties in forcing the ball off the square.

Bets had Matthe Walker leg-before with a ball just short of yorker length. Next, he found a good one to have Ward taken at the wicket. The Kent all-rounder enabled the leaders to obtain maximum bowling points, having Brown caught at the wicket and Alan Walker in the covers, skying an unnecessary drive, given who was batting at the other end.

When Fulton drove at a straight ball from Foster that did not appear to deviate, Kent were 77 for four. In addition, Long and Fleming were not exactly in form. Yet, by the premature close of play, they had respectively made and equalled their highest championship scores of the season. Admittedly, 15 and 33 do not amount to much, but their unbroken partnership of 61 was redolent of the kind of application Lewis had shown throughout his innings.

Whitaker century wears down Somerset

By SIMON WILDE

BATH (second day of four): Leicestershire have scored 442 for six wickets against Somerset

LEICESTERSHIRE failed to make good use of the two hours play that was possible late in the day at the Recreation Ground yesterday. In that time, they moved on with only a moderate impression of urgency from 337 for three to 442 for six and resisted what must have been a tempting option: to declare and leave Somerset to roast on the spit before stumps.

On a pitch, freshened by a long period sweating under the covers, the bowling of Millns and Mullally would have made an interesting sight from anywhere but the striker's end. Leicestershire must be thinking of forcing victory by an innings, which they will do well to achieve given the unfavourable weather forecast.

If anyone might have been expected to give a lead, it was James Whitaker, the Leicestershire captain. Instead, in the 32nd over Somerset sent down, he added 55 runs to end the day unbeaten on 133, his third first-class century of the sea-

son and the 37th of his career. His hundred came up in five hours.

Johnson's overnight partner, and Macmillan appeared passingly interested in getting on with things, but there was little excuse for Johnson's downfall: aiming to lift Rose over midwicket, he thickened the ball down to Shine at third man.

Macmillan announced his intentions by pulling Shine for six, but was soon leg-before to Rose's attempted yorker, aiming another extravagant stroke through the off side. Rose claimed a third wicket when Nixon cut him to point.

Mushtaq Ahmed, the Pakistani leg spinner, hobbled from the field with a sore left knee on Wednesday, but has not ruled out taking a further part in the game; Van Troost, however, is expected to be out of action for two weeks with his pulled hamstring.

Van Troost, who is believed to have aroused the interest of Nottinghamshire, followed up the announcement of his county cap by signing a two-year contract yesterday, but his most remarkable piece of news is that, at the age of 24, he reported for the season an inch taller and now reputedly stands 6ft 6in.

He has not helped the situation by making himself the only man in the side not to offer to contribute to Barnett's fighting fund, but he did do his cause some good yesterday by making 53, a showcase innings for alternative employers, which pulled Derbyshire out of the mire after they had slipped to 85 for five.

Vashti Drakes, the Barbados fast bowler, who finished the day with four for 44, started the rot by uprooting the off stumps of both Tim Tweats, who shouldered arms to a straight one, and Barnett, who was beaten for pace.

When James Kirley had John Owen leg-before, Adams and Clarke began the salvage operation with a partnership of 59. Adams is not one to hang around. He lifted Kirley over mid-wicket for six and then drilled him for four boundaries in one over, three of them through the off side from successive deliveries.

His 50 came up on only 36 balls, but he then gave his wicket away when an attempted pick-up of Robinson resulted in a top edge.

Clarke kept things going with some pleasing shots of his own, which helped him to 48 not out by the close.

White presents his Test credentials

By RICHARD HOBSON

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of four): Nottinghamshire, with six first-innings wickets in hand, are 248 runs behind Yorkshire

the task would be far harder, because there is enough in the pitch to encourage the bowlers to bend their backs.

Chris Silverwood did just in removing Mark Bowden, the nervous nightwatchman, in the fourth over of the day. Neither was Tim Robinson at ease in his first championship innings for a month. White came into the attack, immediately generated sufficient pace from his short run and slinging delivery stride to force Blakey a good distance back and forced Robinson toudge a sharp, low catch to Drakes at second slip.

Two overs later, White struck again, though not before Mathew Downman had located the boundary three times. Light on his feet, Downman has some elegant strokes, but has now failed 11 times in 12 innings to reach 25. It says something for his capabilities that, on the twelfth occasion, he scored 111 against Northamptonshire.

Dogged and unexpected resistance by Nathan Astle and Danny Morrison denied England victory in Auckland. That was the last occasion on which England failed to win a Test. Clearly the Yorkshire all-rounder, elevated to international status on a bunch of Ray Illingworth three summers ago, has fallen behind the likes of Mark Ealham and Adam Hollioake.

It would, though, be folly to close the file on his Test career. In an agreeable personal touch at Ilford, after the squad for the first Test against Australia had been announced, Graham Gooch sidled up to White to explain that he remained in contention. Three days earlier, White had bowled Gooch in the championship game against Essex.

Indeed, his contribution to that particular contest represents a microcosm of his season: he chipped in with the ball, taking five wickets, but did precious little with the bat. On the first day here, he fended a delivery that reared from a length to slip having made 15, but yesterday, with rain restricting play to just 31 overs, he made a far more significant contribution.

By taking three wickets in a spell of ten runs, he reduced Notts from 59 for one to 32 for four. They still require 99 to avoid the follow-on today, though the depth of their bating order should ensure survival. Had Darren Gough been available, he would have been a welcome addition to the attack.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

(e) An India, an elephant-goad. Also used attributively. From the Hindi, Persian *angush*, Sanskrit *ankuta*. Rudyard Kipling, *The Second Jungle Book*, 1895: "It was a two-foot anuk, or elephant-goad — something like a small boat-hook."

FASCINATOR (a) A head shawl worn by women, either crocheted or made of soft material. Originally US.

BALLATA (c) A Renaissance Italian verse form. An Italian variation of a ballad. "This is not really a ballata but the first stanza of a lost canzone. The ballata is a 14th-century Italian verse-form, in which the refrain occurs at the beginning and end of the stanza."

COLLINS (a) A letter of thanks for entertainment or hospitality, sent by a departed guest; a bread-and-butter letter. An eponym of William Collins, the upwardly mobile and brown-nosed dandy in Jane Austen's *Pride & Prejudice*. "This is only a Collins, and a Collins should not wade into deep places. It should be loving but not

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

I Qxe8! Kxe8 2 Nc7+ Kf8 3 Rd8 checkmate

1

COLLECTORS' ISSUE
FOUR ENGLAND WINS
How the Test was won, by Scyll Berry - Man-by-man marking for both sides
The Holmatics: storage special • David Gower's diary, his first 40 days
MCC'S CHANGING ROLE What it is, exactly!
THE 70,000-MILE MAN Who we cricket's most frequent thy
REALITY CRICKET The top 200 in our readers' game
<

France bestows highest honour on the reluctant hero of the sea

MICHAEL CALVIN



In Paris

The President swept into the Elysée Palace with due pomp and circumstance at noon yesterday. A military escort, flanked by protocol officials in morning suits, danced in attendance. The Englishman he had invited to receive France's foremost honour surveyed the opulent scene with eyes as wide as the hole in his battered sailing shoes.

"What am I doing here?" Pete Goss murmured, as he was called before Jacques Chirac, who expressed the thanks of a grateful nation by presenting him with the Légion d'honneur. A wan-faced young man in a peach-coloured shirt, self-consciously attempting to blend into the small crowd of friends and family, knew better than anyone.

Raphael Dinelli still has difficulty with his vision, impaired when his eyeballs were soured by hailstones as he stood in the freezing waters of the Southern Ocean, his yacht sinking beneath him. He is being sued by his sponsors for failing to sail around the world, but, thanks to Goss, he is still alive.

"I'm so happy for Pete," Chirac threw his arms around them both and called Dinelli's rescue "a magnificent example of the generosity of spirit and the solidarity of humanity". The rest of the world called it a miracle. In stark, simple terms, Goss risked his life just as he had risked bankruptcy to compete in the Vendée Globe, the solo circumnavigation that represents yachting's most rigorous test of character.

Around 150,000 spectators welcomed him back to Brittany in late March, yet, as Goss said yesterday, "this is a race that doesn't finish with the finishing line". Despite being able to use the advance for his forthcoming autobiography as a deposit on a new house, he remains £55,000 in debt. Due to a process of emotional osmosis, he does not profess to understand. He has come to represent something priceless in a world of shifting values.

The principal virtue that he embodies — selflessness —



Goss, right, smiles proudly after receiving his award from President Chirac, centre, together with Dinelli.

may be unfashionable, but it commands the widest of audiences. He receives more than 30 letters a day, from as far afield as China. Many are addressed simply "Pete Goss, Round the World Yachtsman, Plymouth". "It's wonderful," he said. "The goodwill that comes out of those envelopes keeps you going. It's quite humbling that a stranger should feel the need to make contact with someone he doesn't know."

Fame is a hall of mirrors. Goss estimates that around 20,000 articles have been written on the rescue, sparked when Dinelli's yacht capsized during a storm on Christmas Day last year. He has been profiled across the magazine spectrum, from *Hellai* to *Penthouse*. For someone who prides himself on his level-headedness, being depicted as a cross between Superman and Mother Teresa is a severe culture shock.

"Times are manic," he chuckled. "I feel like I've come back to another planet. I left the phone for six hours the other day and when I got back there were 40 messages. How do you cope with that? It's harder to deal with than the race, oddly enough."

"Everything has changed, though, in reality, nothing has changed. People treat you differently. The same person

who has said good morning to you every day for years says it a little differently. I go to get a cab after giving a talk and I find a lady telling the driver, 'I'm sorry, this is not good enough for Mr Goss'."

"Obviously, the race captured the world's imagination, but I'm no hero. I wasn't when I left and I'm not now. It's just me in my flip-flops, doing what I can," President Chirac, for one, begged to differ. He devoured Tracey, the British yachtsman's wife, in a bearhug and told her: "He is a special man, who has done a special thing."

Dinelli did not seem so at ease. He is weighed down by legal worries and his attempt to purge himself of the trauma by writing a book, which is eighth on the French best-sellers list, has only been partially successful. Every question he was asked yesterday implicitly demanded gratitude and he admitted: "So many things are still with me."

Goss is acutely sensitive to the situation. He has been chosen to be best man at Dinelli's wedding later in the year and will sail with him on the Jacques Vabre transat-

lantic race, from France to Colombia, in October. The promotional value of such a joint venture is immense, but their friendship has a unique depth.

"It feels as if we are brothers," Goss said. "He was lucky to get away with it, basically. I still get all emotional when I talk about it. It was a privilege to save him. When I pitched up and rescued him we were in an unusual situation. There was no ambulance to stick him into, no doctor to attend him. That was down to me."

"For ten days, before I dropped him off in Hobart, there were just two of us. No one and nothing else entered our world. We talked about the sort of things conversations don't normally extend to. We opened ourselves up to each other and set our relationship in concrete."

"There is an extraordinary warmth to the French. I visit schools here and they sing songs, in patrot-fashion English, about the rescue. With the French, it is straight from the heart and that is why today is so special to me. They have a real empathy with the sea. They understand the scale of its challenge."

They also recognise a hero when they see one. Even if he refuses to wear socks on a Eurostar day trip to see the President.

Reunited: Dinelli, who had been rescued by Goss, greets the Englishman at the end of the Vendée Globe race

Army team conquers calm times

By EDWARD GORMAN
NAILING CORRESPONDENT

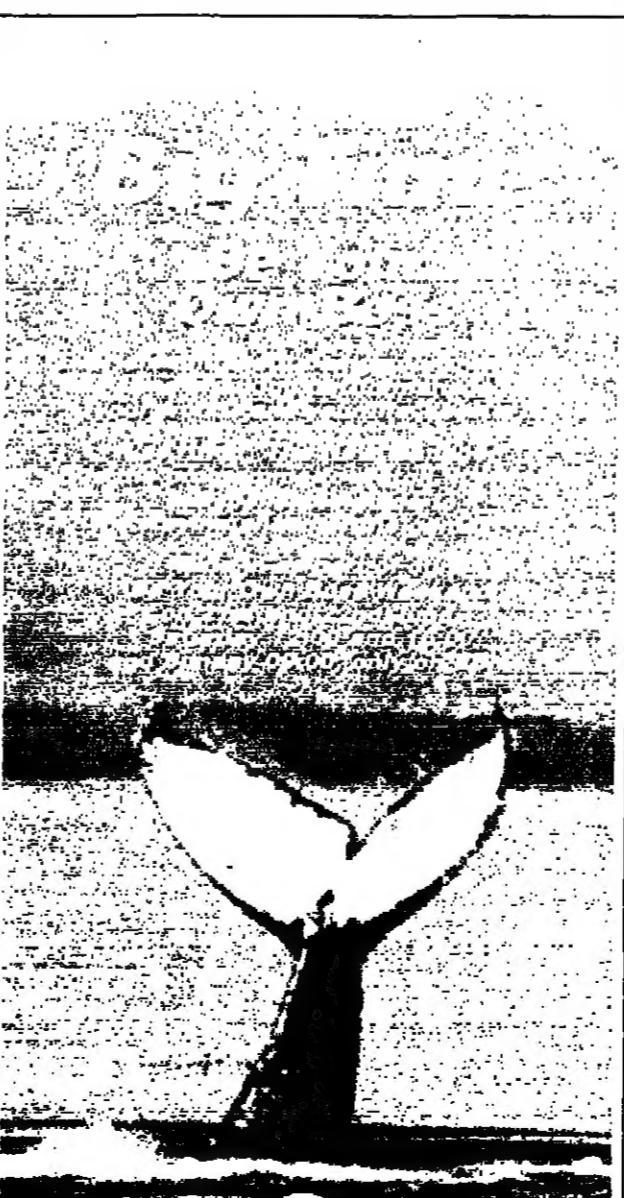
FOR the third time, a team from the Royal Marines has won one of the most gruelling races in sport, the Three Peaks Yacht Race, which combines 74 miles of fell running up Mount Snowdon, Scafell Pike and Ben Nevis with 389 miles of sailing from Barmouth to Fort William.

For this, the 21st anniversary of the event, 22 five-man crews turned out at the start on Saturday, with the last yachts still edging towards the finish at Fort William yesterday. The Marines, sailing the 40ft Nic Bailey-designed trimaran *Royal Marine Commando*, formerly known as *Molly Mawk*, burned off the competition, completing the course in three days, 19 hours and 33 minutes to win the overall and multihull titles.

Skipped by Major Jeremy Heal, they led virtually the whole way and showed guts and determination when the going got tough. After their two fell runners, Marine David Rodgers and Captain John Rye, were first up and down Snowdon, they found themselves becalmed at low water in the Menai Strait. They put a man ashore and dragged the 11-ton trimaran, in between bouts of rowing and wading.

Sailing up to Fort William, they were again becalmed and rowed the last 45 miles in 12 hours with just one working oar after a rowlock fell overboard.

Second place in the multi-hull division went to the Ferrier F27, *Tridhara*, skippered by Gareth Owen. The Bull 7000, *Myriad*, TV, skippered by James Thompson, won the monohull division.



Small Fry

By NICK CLARKE

TELEVISION CRITIC

ANDREW MACGREGOR

THE TIMES FRIDAY JUNE 20 1997

The laughter-packed proof that less is more

Television has made fortunes for comedians, but there is value deducted tax to be paid: half an hour of material transmitted to ten million or so people gives said material built-in obsolescence. Much like a piece of headgear created for Ascot, national exposure makes it old hat in no time.

Occasionally, however, there comes a comedy show that one could cheerfully sit down and watch twice. Last night Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones began their first series for two years and demonstrated that limiting one's television exposure is the surest way to maintain quality and remain in demand. Smith and Jones (BBC1) is simply brilliant.

Several double acts, including Hale and Pace, have come to the screen since the halcyon days of Morecambe and Wise, but none except Smith and Jones is remotely to be compared to Eric and Ernie.

Not that the comparison is real, for those doyens depended almost entirely upon Morecambe's matchless timing. In truth the material was often somewhat thin.

Smith and Jones pull off an even harder trick: they are intrinsically funny but never rely on the fact. Instead they use a combination of good ideas and clever writing to produce sketches and to-camera pieces of genuine quality. Too often television comics produce so-called humorous sketches that have a single funny line, usually the punchline. Smith and Jones sketches are funny in conception as well as in execution.

The running gag last night had the pair as co-pilots trying to park a jumbo jet as if parking a car at a supermarket: "We'll grab that disabled space." The show also had a wonderful introduction which mocked the BBC's propensity for cookery programmes: "BBC1 is to be relaunched as a rolling 24-

hour cuisine service. Repeats will in future be known as seconds."

I get the impression that Smith and Jones have taken up a recent trend and packed in more material. Yet there is no sense of this occurring on the basis that if you didn't like that gag, there will be another along soon. It was fast but never frantic, and the writing had that key ingredient so often missing elsewhere: it had rhythm.

Some of the briefest routines made clever use of lateral thinking. Jones appeared as a football fan with the cross of St George painted garishly on his face. Smith: "Going to the match, then?" Jones: "No, I fell asleep on the barbecue."

Perhaps Smith and Jones had put me in an irreversible mood, but there was something oddly comic about the night's main documentary, *Barred Love*, part of a Channel 4 focus on prison life as well as in execution.

The running gag last night had the pair as co-pilots trying to park a jumbo jet as if parking a car at a supermarket: "We'll grab that disabled space." The show also had a wonderful introduction which mocked the BBC's propensity for cookery programmes: "BBC1 is to be relaunched as a rolling 24-

REVIEW

Peter Barnard

generally entitled *Banged Up*. This was all about the love lives (or absence of love lives) of couples separated by imprisonment.

Several of the inmates interviewed in Brixton and Wandsworth prisons felt that there should be conjugal visits, citing "more relaxed countries" such as America and The Netherlands. One claimed to have achieved a conjugal visit by means of taking

up a position behind a pillar in the visitors' room and inviting his girlfriend to sit on his lap.

I happen to oppose conjugal visits, for the same reason that I oppose prisons having appended to them multiplex cinemas or ten-pin bowling alleys: there is no punishment in replicating a criminal's lifestyle behind bars, unless of course he is also allowed to be visited by debt collectors, and incompetent detective vans and incompet-

ent lawyers.

I did feel sorry for the women. They have to handle all the aforementioned detritus while their men play tennis. As Barbara, one of the partners, said: "I'm out in the real world, dealing with everyday things like work and paying the bills, so it's a lot harder for me." All that her partner, Michael, had to do was "eat, sleep, talk and play games". Quite so.

Channel 4 documentaries are

not normally coy, but this one seemed a touch shy about the matter of intra-prison relations, so to say. Perhaps it was just as well. There was a mention of homosexuality being "rare" but at least one of the prisoners felt there was a safer outlet in a picture of Cindy Crawford and an imagination".

And so to that other prison, your average airport on a foggy day. My colleague Matthew Bond has not liked *Airport* (BBC1) and I have to admit that previous episodes have resembled fast-moving action to the same extent that Kenneth Clarke's views resemble those of John Redwood. But I am rather a sucker for this fly-on-the-wall stuff and last night *Airport* had some better moments.

The fog was not very interesting: sort of grey stuff, isn't it? But there was a nice sequence involving the Moscow Symphony Orchestra,

whose entire string section went missing at Heathrow. I thought at first we were being set up for an old Cold War joke. Question: What is a Russian string quartet? Answer: a Russian symphony orchestra after a tour of the West. But much funnier, the attention of the violinists and cellists had wandered to the money exchange, where they swapped their piles of pounds for oh, I don't know, half a rouble?

Jeremy, the Aeroflot rep, is emerging as the star of the series. He is a calm man who has seen it all before and clearly expects most if it to come around again, very soon. Jeremy's whole demeanour speaks of Russians as a breed apart and all the more likeable for being so. A missing string section is to Jeremy a mere bagatelle: "They might be at McDonald's playing for a Big Mac," he announced, in a line worthy of Smith and Jones.

6.00am Business Breakfast (75643)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (74169)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (5466136)
9.20 Cheggers' Challenge A makeover for the staff at one of London's oldest pie and mash shops (3762020)
9.45 Kilroy (T) (9334907)
10.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (15001)
11.00 News (T); **Regional News and Weather** (290468)
11.05 The Great Escape Cancun, Mexico (7811662)
11.35 Royal Ascot A preview of the final day (4217846)
12.00 News (T) and weather (1450594)
12.05pm Call My Bluff (5669198)
12.35 Neighbours (T) (4423914)
1.00 News (T) and weather (73198)
1.30 Regional News (15587285)
1.40 The Weather Show (3672204)
1.45 Royal Ascot Coverage of the 2.30 Windsor Castle Stakes, 3.05 Hardwick Stakes and 3.45 Wokingham Stakes; Continues on BBC1 (4108078)
4.00 Poppey (8133907) 4.10 Ace Ventura: Pet Detective (9357370) 4.35 Clarissa Explains It All (6716554) 5.00 **Newsround** (T) (8430407) 5.10 Blue Peter. 30th anniversary of the Blue Peter lifeboat (T) (7180310)
5.35 Neighbours (T) (710827)
6.00 News (T) and weather (407)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (759)
7.00 The Best of Lee Dawson Last in the series of highlights from the much-loved comedian's TV show (T) (3846)
7.30 Top of the Pope (T) (643)
8.00 X Cars Using thermal imaging equipment to track down a criminal who thinks he is safe under cover of darkness; and a device which can pinpoint a stolen car. Last in series (T) (T) (1001)
8.30 Auntie's Sporting Bloomers Mishaps and mistakes in the world of sport. Jockey Willie Carson recalls tales from the turf (T) (1001)
8.00 News (T) and weather (4933)
9.30 Drovers' Gold In the penultimate episode, Handi's long-forgotten passions are reignited by the unexpected arrival of an old flame, while Aaron is forced to face up to the truth about his father (T) (633469)
10.25 Anything to Survive (1990) with Robert Conrad, Ocean Helm and Friends star Mai Le Blain in an early role. A father and his three children fight the elements for three weeks after becoming shipwrecked on the coast of Alaska. Directed by Zala Zelen (T) (5436311)
11.55 Cricket: Second Test and Royal Ascot Highlights (7089556)
12.55m Jack the Ripper (1858, b/w) With Lee Patterson, John Le Mesurier, Eddie Byrne and Betty McDowell. Clues at the scenes of a series of grisly murders lead Scotland Yard officers to believe an insane surgeon is guilty of Victorian London's most notorious killings. Directed by Robert Baker and Monty Berman (T) (4770518)
2.15 Weather (2859860)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in the VideoPlus+ number for the programme you want to record. The programme title and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory published on Saturday.

SKY 1

6.00am Morning Glory (8026169) 8.00 **Regis and Kathie Lee** (45412) 10.00 **Another World** (2020) 11.00 **Days of Our Lives** (1758) 12.00 **The Open** (1996) 12.30 **Death in Paradise** (T) (5622024) 2.00 **Sally Jessy Raphael** (40292) 3.00 **Jenny Jones** (16778) 4.00 **The Oprah Winfrey Show** (56238) 5.00 **Star Trek: The Next Generation** (7957) 6.00 **Real TV** (6421001) 7.00 **High Incident** (38489) 8.00 **Death in the Net** (6421002) 9.00 **The Shining** (2024) 12.30 **Heaven** (L.A.P.D.) (3357) 1.00 **HIT Men** (1215841)

SKY 2

7.00pm **Superboy** (4649381) 7.30 **Superboy** (8146931) 8.00 **Death in Paradise** (5623049) 10.00 **Death from the Cry** (384828) 1.10 **Last Show with Letterman** (7184662) 12.00 **HIT Men** (1215841)

SKY NEWS

Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

6.00pm **Spanner: A Savage Place** (1983) (59730) 8.00 **Spanner: The Judge** (1984) (59731) 9.00 **Spanner: The Simple Trickster** (1984) (53407) 1.30pm **Howard: A New Breed of Hero** (1989) 5.30pm **The Stakeholders** (1993) (61328) 6.30pm **Attack: Conquerors** (1994) (67484) 7.30pm **A Simple Twisted Tale** (1984) (27323) 8.00 **Murder in the Fifties** (1995) (38117) 1.00 **Panther** (1985) (560524) 1.05pm **Chopstick Jones** (1970) (6304024) 2.00 **Dandy Donkey** (1994) (4000203) 4.10 **Revert: A New Breed of Hero** (1988) (72518)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00pm **The Oregon Trail** (1985) (67372) 8.00 **Captive Island** (1995) (59548) 10.00 **Andre** (1984) (50257) 1.20pm **The Rain** (Carrie) (1988) (564529) 2.00pm **Free Willy** (1982)

8.00pm Visions of Snowdonia (1996) 9.00 **Olympic mountain biking** hopeful Sian Roberts discusses the hardships she faces trying to earn a living and train in Snowdonia (T) (33767)

8.30 Gardeners' World A tiny beetle which is the most environmentally friendly way of dealing with whitefly; plus giant floral sheep in Melstone, Kent, and growing trees from seed (T) (6643)

9.00 The Fast Show With Paul Whitehouse and Caroline Aherne (T) (2575)

9.30 Alexei Sayle's Comedy Hour The comic introduces his pick of clips from the archives, including, at 10.00 Sykes: Stranger (T) (74310)

10.28 Video Nation Hong Kong Shorts (668285)

10.30 Newsnight (T) (572597)

11.15 The A-Team Entertainment series, with the actor David Harewood making a guest appearance (384440)

12.45pm The Virgin Spring (1958, b/w) A young maiden is murdered and buried in a forest by a gang of vicious vagrants, leaving her parents to exact a savage revenge. Ingmar Bergman's Oscar-winning adaptation of a medieval legend. Followed by *Weatherview* (541686). Ends at 2.15

1.30 Coronation Street (T) (44112)

5.30 News (44537)

6.00am Open University: Healthy Futures — Who Views Count? (3054846) 6.25 TV: **Images, Messages and Ideologies** (6133865)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T) and signing) (7763391)

7.30 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (6691285) 7.50 50/50 (T) (2883486) 8.20 Mr Ben (5665533)

8.35 The Record (2433662)

9.00 A Passion for Angling (T) (3329523)

9.55 Lifetimes in a Day (T) (2535001)

10.00 Telebilities (6719845)

10.50 Cricket: Second Test England v Australia Tony Lewis introduces live coverage from Lord's (5037804)

1.00 John and Friends (10129827)

1.10 Burke's Backyard (2392057)

1.40 Cricket: England v Australia Day two at Lord's With commentary from Richie Benaud, David Gower and Geoffrey Boycott (53186827) 3.55 News, regional news and weather (3689285)

4.00 Royal Ascot: Cricket and Women's Tennis Racing from Ascot, Cricket England v Australia. Coverage through to the close on the second day of the second Test at Lord's; Tennis: Women's semi-final match from Devonshire Park, Eastbourne (T) (6613371)

7.15 Cardiff Singers of the World Singers from Russia, the Czech Republic, Ireland, Mexico and South Africa take part in the final preliminary round (677730)

8.00 Coronation Street As Angie's friends gather to celebrate her birthday, a couple of surprise guests arrive (T) (3329)

9.00 The Bill When Garfield and Blake are called to help enforce the demolition of a home, a neighbour's dispute erupts into violence (T) (7682)

9.30 Coronation Street As Angie's friends gather to celebrate her birthday, a couple of surprise guests arrive (T) (3329)

10.00 Coronation Street (T) (44112)

12.30pm Coronation Street (T) (44112)

1.00 Coronation Street (T) (44112)

5.30 News (44537)

6.00am GMTV (9232223)

9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (3383339)

9.55 Regional News (T) (4073072)

10.00 The Time, The Place (52117)

10.30 This Morning (T) (65424952)

12.20pm Regional News (T) (4064778)

12.30pm News (T) and weather (4459339)

12.55 Designed by Emanuel (4227730) 1.25 Home and Away (T) (5027730) 1.50 Murder, She Wrote (T) (5679204) 2.50 Calendar (T) (234407)

3.25 Regional News (T) (3610407)

3.30 Rosie and Jim (T) (3412554) 3.40 Slim Pig (3386575) 3.50 Cartoon: (3416130) 4.05 The Treacherous People (T) (1288876) 4.15 Hey Arnold (T) (71694) 4.40 Get Wet (T) (6042404)

5.10 A Country Practice (4227204)

